独裁者グラナダ

AMI SUGIMOTO PRESENTS

DICTATOR GRANADA

TRANSLATION TSURARA
EDITS KEY-LIME
SCANS TSURARA
QC HAWKEYE - TSURARA
DOKIDOKI - HTTP://WWW.ARASAME.ORG

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Ami Sugimoto Presents

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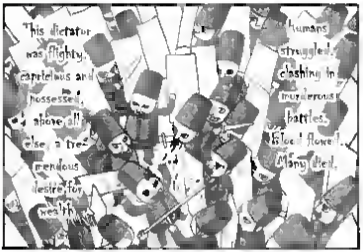
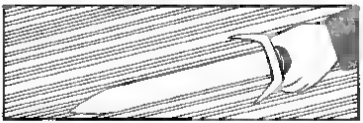
charming and fair of face and form.

Once upon a time, something appeared from thin air.

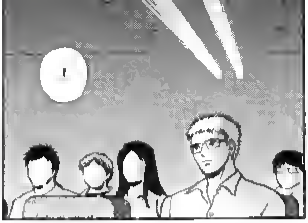

This dictator was flighty, capricious and possessed above all else, a tremendous desire for wealth.
humans struggled, clashing in murderous battles.
Many died.

and in an instant, this figure became the supreme dictator of all the land

manipulating the hearts of humans with the promise of eternity



But all would-be assassins fell before the dictator
and before long the world again grew quiet
and the earth swallowed up what was hers all along
and the dictator who had been born into this world
turned its head... forward to the north.



PRODUC-
TION
DIREC-
TION
SCRIPT
MUSIC
CLAYMA-
TION
NARUSE
KUNI-
HIKO..?
AWE-
SOME
A BEAUTI-
FUL GOD
WHO
MAKES
MINCEMEAT
OF EVERY
THING IN
IT'S PATH!!
PRESENT

I'VE
BEEN
HEARING
THIS
NAME A
LOT IN
THE
BRO-
CHURES
LATELY
NA-
RUSE

APOLO-
GIZE
NOW!!
SHIT-
FOR-
BRAINS!!
I-I'M
SORRY!!

HIE
EEE
KICK
BIEN
MAYBE I
SHOULD
WRITE A
MEMO
ABOUT
MY
IMPRES-
SIONS
BE-
FORE
HEADING
BACK TO
THE
OFFICE

NOTHING
TO DO
WITH ME
ON TO
THE
STATION
A
FIGHT?

EEH?
YOU TOTALLY TRASHED MY ANIME!!
IS THAT WHAT YOU CALL AN APOLOGY ASSHOLE?!
KICK
YOU'RE STILL A FUCKING NOBODY WHO CAN'T CREATE ANYTHING OF HIS OWN. ALL YOU DO IS PUT PEOPLE WHO CAN DOWN
I DON'T GIVE A SHIT IF YOU'RE THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF AT HYOURON HOUSE
AND THAT GUY WITH HIM IS...
THAT'S THE GUY MY PUBLISHER SENT TO WRITE THE REVIEW. HE'S THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF OF 'JUNK MOVES'
H-HYOURON HOUSE-THA-THAT GUY ALL COVERED IN BLOOD IS...
I KNOW YOU'VE GOT A WIFE AND A LITTLE KID IN KINDERGARTEN. YOU DON'T WANT ME GOING AFTER THEM, DO YA!?
IT WAS SO KIND OF YOU TO COME TO THE SCREENING TONIGHT. BUT NEXT TIME-LAY OFF ON THE SHITTY REVIEWS!!
THANKS...
AND THAT GUY WITH HIM IS...

I'LL PUBLISH A RETRACTION ON THE NET, SO...
SO PLEASE FORGIVE ME, NARUSE-SAN!!

EEH
UM.
IS HE SCARED OF NARUSE...?

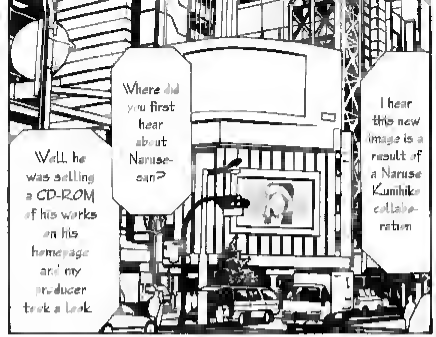
NARUSE KUNI-HIKO...
I'M GLAD WE UNDERSTAND EACH OTHER
I THINK WE DO

NEXT TIME, PRAISE ME
YOUR SKIN'LL HEAL OVER AND I H. VEN'T BROKEN ANY BONES
HERE, GO TO THE HOS-PITAL
NO WAY
UNBELIEV-ABLE! WAY TOO UNBE-LIEVABLE!!
SHO
CK

THE "NEWCOMERS OF FILM" FESTIVAL WAS INTERESTING, WASN'T IT?
KOHARA-SAN!
WOW, YOU'RE EARLY, NAKATA
ONE OF THE EDITORS WENT ALONG AS A WRITER TOO, DIDN'T HE?
UHM... ABOUT THAT—

I-I REALLY LIKED IT— GRANADA—
HE'S REALLY SOMETHING, ISN'T HE? NABUSE KUNIHIKO
I-I MEAN "DICTATOR GRANADA"
CAN THEY REALLY LET HIM GET AWAY WITH THAT?!
ISN'T IT SHOCKING?! A VIOLENT ANIME ARTIST WHO BEATS THE CRAP OUT OF REVIEWERS?!
GREAT. JUST GREAT
MEH DON'T BOTHER YOURSELF WITH THAT I MAKE IT MY POLICY NOT TO CARE HOW WAS THE SHOW?

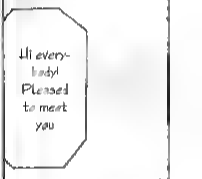
WELL THEN YOU WON'T OBJECT TO BEING SENT FOR AN INTER-VIEW?!
NAKATA'S ENTERED INTO HIS OWN LITTLE WORLD AGAIN?
I REALLY ENJOYED IT. I REALLY, REALLY ENJOYED IT!!
THAT'S RIGHT, I WAS REALLY IMPRESSED, WASN'T I?! EVEN IF THE MAKER IS A TOTAL DEMON!!
ME!?
EH?!
INTER VIEW?
AN INTER-VIEW WITH NAOUSE KUNIHIKO
EVADING RESPON-SIBIL-ITY AGAIN. HAVE YOU NO PRIDE?
NO WAY. I CAN'T!!
SHUT UP
IT'S FOR OUR PUBLISHING HOUSE'S YEARLY MEMORIAL PUBLICATION IN THE FIELD OF FILM AND MEDIA WE LIKE TO INCLUDE ARTICLES ON VARIOUS INFLUENTIAL FIGURES IN THE FIELD---
NOT AT ALL, HE'S HARDLY "SMALL"
DON'T YOU THINK HE'S A LITTLE SMALL YET TO BE OF INTEREST TO MANY READERS---
<MAGAZINE TITLE> PUBLICATION


Where did you first hear about Naruse-san?
I hear this new image is a result of a Naruse Kunihiko collaboration
Well, he was selling a CD-ROM of his works on his homepage and my producer took a look

I could tell right away that we had a compatable vision
But I myself was also really inspired by what I saw...

Well, let's have a look, shall we? This is Kume Hitomi's "Amazen From Outer Space"
I DON'T BELIEVE IT— EVEN MY HITOMI-CHAN

And our next guest is Kume Hitomi here to promote her brand new music video


Hi everybody! Pleased to meet you

This new video's pretty cool, huh? The sound is great but the image is even more striking—

IF I CAN MANAGE TO MEET HIM FACE TO FACE NOW AND SELL HIM EVEN MORE TO THE PUBLIC THERE'S SOME MERIT IN IT FOR BOTH OF US
HITOMI K'S NEW ALBUM & DVD ON SALE!
WITH THE RELEASE OF THIS NEW CD AND A DVD RELEASE OF THIS VIDEO, I GUESS NARUSE REALLY IS SKYROCKETING IN POPULARITY. ISN'T HE?

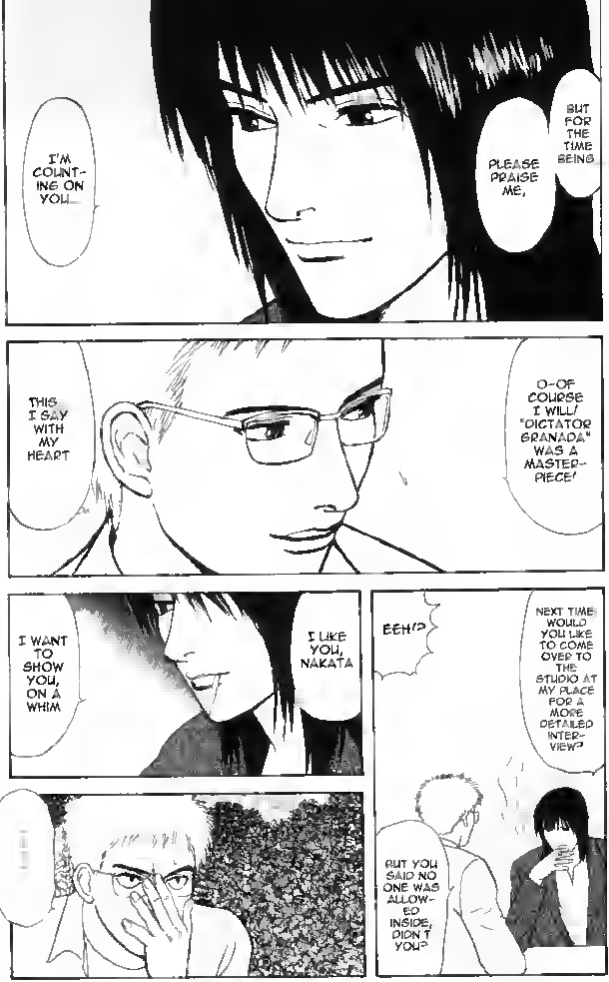
TEA ROOM

AAH ARE YOU NAKATA KAZUKI FROM PIXELATION MAGAZINE?
IT'S NICE TO MEET YOU!!
I'M NABUSE!!

T-THANKS... N-NICE TO MEET YOU...
I'M SCARED
HE'S SO... SO NICE!!
WHAT THE HECK!?

SO--- HAVE YOU SEEN ANY OF MY STUFF?
M-ME---? WHAT'S WITH THIS GUY---
G-GRA-NADA
WOW, GREAT, I'M REALLY GLAD TO HEAR THAT!!
GE GEH
YOU DON'T MIND IF I SMOKE DO YOU---?
UM---
WHAT OMI-NOUS QUIET!! THE CALM BEFORE A STORM
PLEASE! PLEASE! PLEASE!
WHEN HE WAS IN HIGH SCHOOL, HE INHERITED HIS BRILLIANT FATHER'S LEGACY. HE MUST HAVE GOTTEN HIS TALENT FROM HIM... HE WAS QUITE AN INNOVATOR.
WHEN HE WAS IN COLLEGE HE DID A PIECE IN 16 MM FILM UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF GOSHIMA EIJI. IT'S THANKS TO HIM THAT HE LEARNED TO USE A CAMERA
WHAT THE HECK, WHAT A PAIN
CAN'T LOSE IT STAY CALM
ONES THAT WILL ENDURE 30 GEN-ERATIONS DOWN THE LINE
YOU CAN FIT ALL THAT IN YOUR COLUMN CAN'T YOU?
AT THAT POINT, I DE-CIDED THAT I WANT-ED TO MAKE FILMS-

MASA-OKA SHIKI
I GUESS
DIREC-TOR GOSHI-MA IS ONE, ISN'T HE?
WHA WHAT ARTISTS DO YOU ADMIRE?
I REC-OM-MEND THEM--BY THE WAY
AMONG OTHER THINGS I READ A LOT OF HIS BOOKS
MASAOKA SHIKI!" THE GUY WHO WROTE "TO EAT PERSSI-MONS"?!
PEOPLE WHO CREATE THINGS WITH THEIR HEARTS, I FEEL LIKE I CAN TRUST THEM
WELL, I'M NOT INTER-ESTED IN GUYS WHO JUST WORK IN PUBLISH-ING OFFICES THEY'RE BORING BUT
WHAT IS THIS?
WHY?
I ONLY WRITE ESSAYS AND THINGS LIKE THAT
EH-NO
NAKATA-SAN, DO YOU WANT TO BE A WRITER?

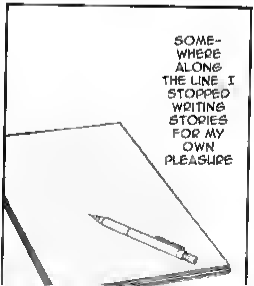

I'M COUNTING ON YOU...
PLEASE PRAISE ME,
BUT FOR THE TIME BEING
THIS I SAY WITH MY HEART
O-OF COURSE I WILL! "DICTATOR GRANADA" WAS A MASTERPIECE!
I WANT TO SHOW YOU, ON A WHIM
I LIKE YOU, NAKATA
EEH!?
NEXT TIME WOULD YOU LIKE TO COME OVER TO THE STUDIO AT MY PLACE FOR A MORE DETAILED INTERVIEW?
BUT YOU SAID NO ONE WAS ALLOWED INSIDE, DIDN'T YOU?

THAT OMINOUS MAN WHOSE CREATIONS SPRING FORTH FROM HIS HEART WITH A LIFE OF THEIR OWN
IT'S NOT LIKE HE WOULD BE INTERESTED IN ME

WELL THEN, WRITE UP A FULL PAGE INTERVIEW WHEN YOU GO!!
WHAT?! REALLY?!
KEH

BUT NOW THAT I THINK OF IT, I REALLY DON'T WANT TO DO A JOB LIKE THIS
HONESTLY I MAKE IT MY POLICY NOT TO GET INVOLVED IN TYPES LIKE THIS,

WITHOUT NOTICING
I HAD HOPED TO WRITE ARTICLES FOR AWHILE JUST TO MAKE ENDS MEET BUT
WHERE I CAN CREATE SOMETHING
I'D REALLY RATHER HAVE A JOB


SOMEWHERE ALONG THE LINE I STOPPED WRITING STORIES FOR MY OWN PLEASURE

Please come in
IT'S NAKATA FROM PIXELATION
Yes?
WHAT AN AMAZING HOUSE
AND A JAGUAR TOO!
A FERRARI?!
A YOUNG WOMAN'S VOICE
SO CUUUUU UUTE!!
LIKEWISE I'M NAKATA
I'M NARUSE'S MANAGER SHIOZAKI AI
PLEASED TO MEET YOU

I DIDN'T KNOW THIS EXISTED... IN SETA-GAYA...
WOW !!
THIS PLACE IS AMAZ-ING--

PLEASE COME IN

GOOD AFTER-NOON
IT'S NOT THAT IMPRESSIVE REALLY. JUST SOMETHING MY OLD MAN LEFT TO ME...
NO... IT'S GREAT W-S YOUR FATHER INTO DESIGN?

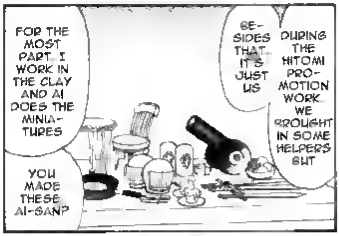
!!
HE DESIGNED ALL THOSE PRICEY CONDO BUILDINGS IN AOYAMA... AND BUILD-INGS IN SHINJUKU AND POP-PONGI..!?

HE WAS AN ARCHI-TECT
NAPU-SE YUKI-HIKO IS MY FATHER

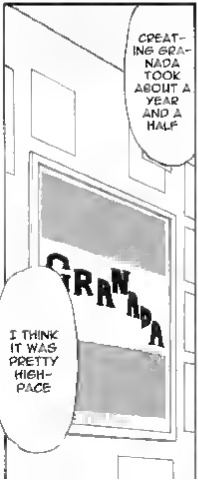
EXCUSE ME
TO BE HONEST I M NOT REALLY FAMI LIAR WITH MY FATH- ER'S WORK
HE NEVER TALKED TO ME ABOUT HIS JOB
Just a moment please
WOW SHE S BILIN- GUAL TOO?
WELL, I GUESS SO
IF THAT MEANS SHE TAKES CARE OF ME
SO, I LEAVE ALL THE OVER- SEAS LICENS- ING TO HER
SHE STILL KIND OF AMAZES ME SHE CAN SPEAK 3 LAN- GUAGES
AI S BEEN A FRIEND OF MINE SINCE COL- LEGE BUT
IS SHE YOUR--- GIRL- FRIEND?

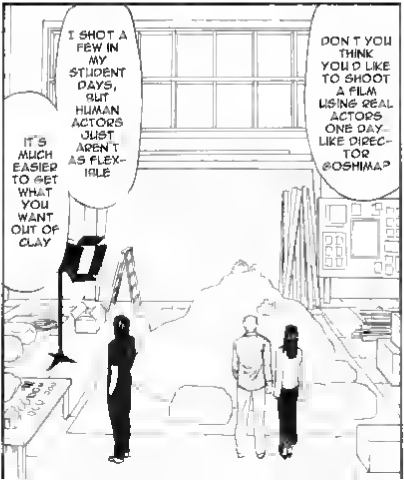
AND THE ONLY GIRL I'VE EVER GONE OUT WITH WAS AN UGLY COPY-EDITOR!?
LIFE IS UNFAIR
there's only guys at the office now
HM?
I KNOW BEHIND HIS CALM FRIENDLY EXTERIOR HE'S JUST AN ARROGANT BULLY--
AND HE HAS A PECULIAR SUPERIORITY COMPLEX
LOTS OF PRETTY WOMEN IN MEDIA
BUT ALSO LOTS OF TALENTED RICH MEN
THIS ONE'S A VIOLENT PAIN THOUGH
AND THIS IS THE STUDIO
THIS IS WHERE AI AND I MAKE FILMS
TOGETHER!?
CHIN NOTE: SYU NOORSTEIN, A RUSSIAN ANIMATOR
WELL, I TRY TO BE LIKE NOORSTEIN*, HE OFTEN WORKED WITH HIS WIFE TO CREATE HIS WORKS

STOP-MOTION WORKS THE SAME WAY AS TRADITIONAL CELL ANIMATION SINGLE FRAMES ONLY.
THERE'S NO VIDEO CAMERA THOUGH. WHY'S THAT?
THE MORE FRAMES PER SECOND THE CLEANER THE MOVEMENT

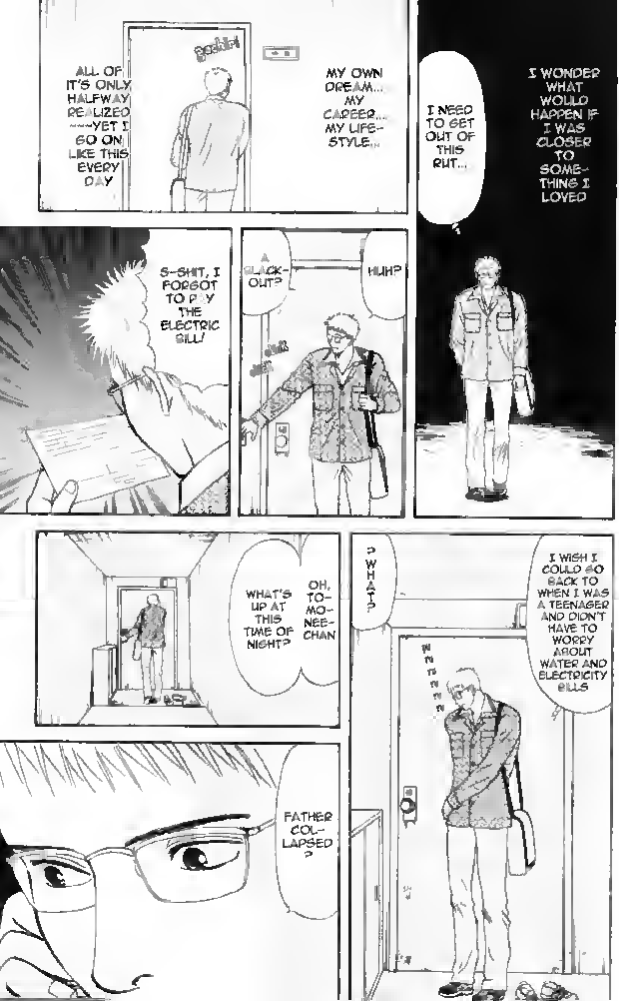

FOR THE MOST PART, I WORK IN THE CLAY AND AI DOES THE MINIATURES
YOU MADE THESE, AI-SAN?
BESIDES THAT, IT'S JUST US
DURING THE HITOMI PROMOTION WORK WE BROUGHT IN SOME HELPERS BUT

SO I WAS PREPARED TO CREATE THE DIORAMAS HE NEEDED FOR THE IMAGE IN HIS MIND
WHEN I WAS IN ENGLAND, I STUDIED DOLL HOUSES.


CREATING GRANADA TOOK ABOUT A YEAR AND A HALF
GRANADA
I THINK IT WAS PRETTY HIGH-PACE

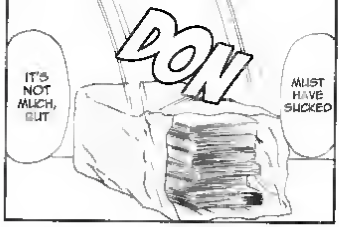

I SHOT A FEW IN MY STUDENT DAYS, BUT HUMAN ACTORS JUST AREN'T AS FLEXIBLE
IT'S MUCH EASIER TO GET WHAT YOU WANT OUT OF CLAY
DON'T YOU THINK YOU'D LIKE TO SHOOT A FILM USING REAL ACTORS ONE DAY, LIKE DIRECTOR SOSHIMA?

ONCE AGAIN, I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO YOUR PRAISE!
WELL
YOU'VE GOT QUITE AN INTERESTING STORY, DON'T YOU---
KARATE... I SEE
IN COLLEGE, I TOOK A LOT OF KARATE, SO I'VE TRAINED MY BODY
COMES IN HANDY FOR RUSH PHOTOGRAPHY WORK
A HOUSE CAN GO FOR 3 DAYS WITHOUT SLEEP AND STILL WORK
WHEN I FINISH TRANSCRIBING THE INTERVIEW
NAKATA AREN'T YOU GOING HOME?
WELL THEN, YOU'LL LOCK UP, WON'T YOU?
WITH WHAT? DID THE BOSS CUT YOUR EXPENSES AGAIN?
I'M KIND OF TIED UP TODAY
AZUMA-SAN, ARE YOU COMING DRINKING WITH US IN SHIMBASHI?
YEAH--- YEAH---


ALL OF IT'S ONLY HALFWAY REALIZED ----YET I GO ON LIKE THIS EVERY DAY
gachi
MY OWN DREAM... MY CAREER... MY LIFE-STYLE...
I NEED TO GET OUT OF THIS RUT...
I WONDER WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF I WAS CLOSER TO SOME-THING I LOVED
S-SHIT, I FORGOT TO PAY THE ELECTRIC BILL!
BLACK-OUT?
HUH?
WHAT'S UP AT THIS TIME OF NIGHT?
OH, TO-MO-NEE-CHAN
FATHER COL-LAPSED ?
WHAT?
I WISH I COULD GO BACK TO WHEN I WAS A TEENAGER AND DIDN'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT WATER AND ELECTRICITY BILLS

It's probably a good idea... He's been like this all along since you moved out on your own
And me too... I call him from time to time but...
I'LL COME HOME SOON
They said it was high blood pressure... He's stable now and they say he's alright to come home. But
WHAT? YOU'RE SAY-ING?! I HAVEN'T GOT THE MONEY!
You've got to help him! You're the man in the family!
WHAT?! STILL?!
I guess he's back in rent for the shop by about ¥40000
Ever since you were little you've run away from your responsibilities, haven't you?!
Can't you take out a home-buyer's loan or something?!
And there was a guy wandering around who seemed like Yazuka too
pururururu
SH-SHIT
!
THIS MIGHT BE THE BIGGEST PINCH OF MY LIFE

NAH... BUT TO TELL THE TRUTH, I'M NEEDED RIGHT AWAY BACK AT MY PARENTS' PLACE.
You okay? You sound freaked out.
I... I HAVE TO BRING MONEY HOME... RIGHT AWAY...
WHAT AM I TELLING HIM FOR—
Your dad's? Is he sick?
Well then, how about now?
NAKU-SE-SAN...
YEAH.
UH... UMMM...
Nakata-kun? I'd like to put some polish on that interview you did with me before and thought I'd get in touch.
上野駅 UENO STATION


DON
IT'S NOT MUCH, BUT
MUST HAVE SUCKED

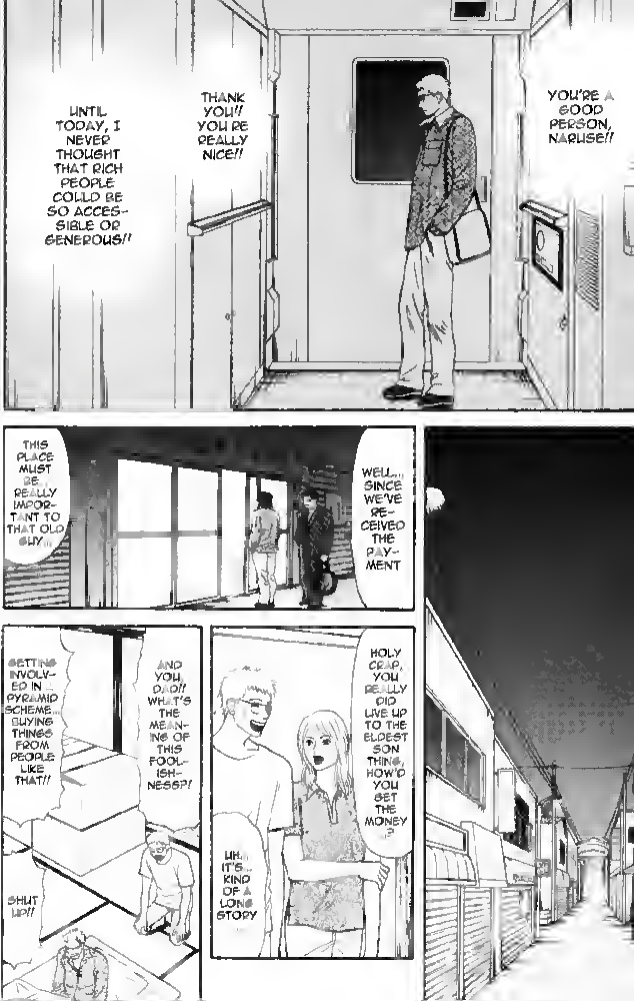
I ALREADY TRANSCRIBED THE TAPE... HERE...
AAH, THANKS FOR LETTING ME TAKE A LOOK
YOU TOOK THE LATE TRAIN?
YEAH... THE TOHO-KU
COFFEE
COFFEE

UH UMM
NARU-SE-SAN
THERE'S $60,000 HERE

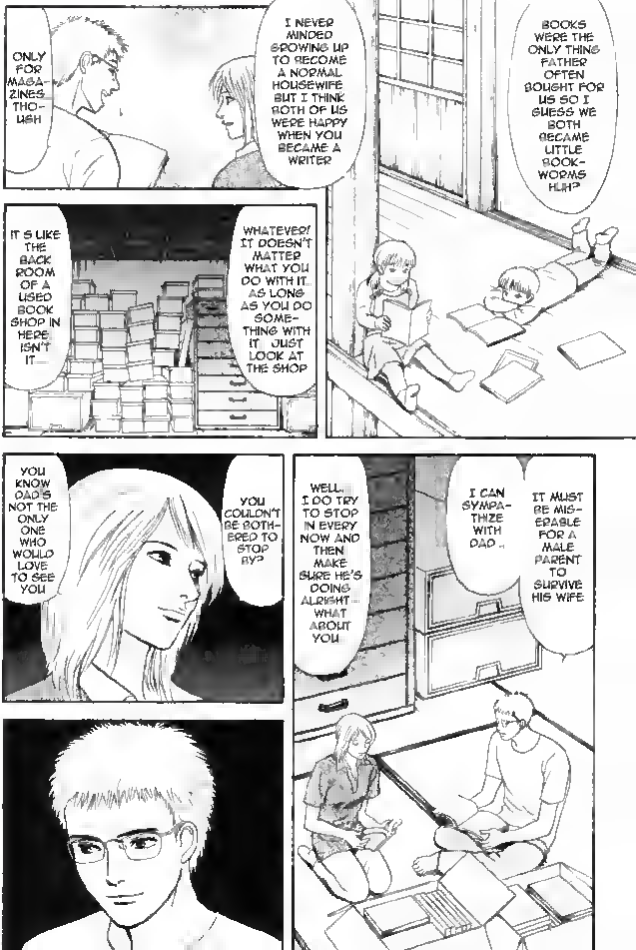
NO
I'D NEVER BE ABLE TO PAY BACK THIS MUCH
NOT ENOUGH?

I LOST MY DAD YOUNG, REMEMBER...
I KNOW HOW IT FEELS

WELL THEN
CONSIDER IT MY GIFT TO YOU...
THIS IS IMPOSSIBLE
WHAT DOES HE MEAN BY THIS?
IS THERE REALLY A GUY LIKE THIS OUT THERE?
BUT HIS HANDS WERE SO STEADY
AND REALLY WARM

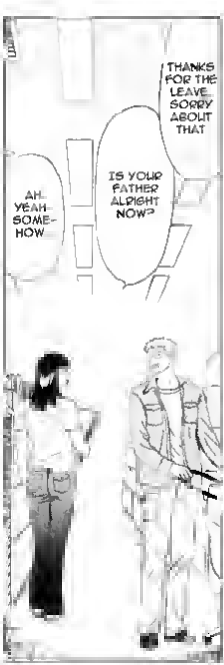

UNTIL TODAY, I NEVER THOUGHT THAT RICH PEOPLE COULD BE SO ACCESSIBLE OR GENEROUS!!
THANK YOU!! YOU'RE REALLY NICE!!
YOU'RE A GOOD PERSON, NARUSE!!
THIS PLACE MUST BE REALLY IMPORTANT TO THAT OLD GUY...
WELL... SINCE WE'VE RECEIVED THE PAYMENT
GETTING INVOLVED IN PYRAMID SCHEME... BUYING THINGS FROM PEOPLE LIKE THAT!!
AND YOU, DAD!! WHAT'S THE MEANING OF THIS FOOLISHNESS?!
SHUT UP!!
HOLY CRAP, YOU REALLY DID LIVE UP TO THE ELDEST SON THING. HOW'D YOU GET THE MONEY?
UH... IT'S... KIND OF A LONG STORY

SO WHAT IF I DO WHAT I LIKE SOME-TIMES?
IT'S NOT LIKE YOU AND TOMOKO EVER COME TO SEE ME YOU JUST GO OFF DOING WHAT YOU LIKE ALL THE TIME
SHUT UP
HE GETS LIKE THIS SOME-TIMES, IT'S BEST JUST TO LET HIM ALONE FOR A BIT
IS HE AL-WAYS THIS STUB-BORN?
WAIT-KAZUKI!
!
LIVING OUT HERE IN THE COUNTRY, I REMEMBER HOW FUN IT WAS TO GET AND READ NEW BOOKS, DON'T YOU?
DAD SEEMS TO HAVE KEPT THEM ALL
WAAAH, THIS REALLY BRINGS ME BACK!


BOOKS WERE THE ONLY THING FATHER OFTEN BOUGHT FOR US SO I GUESS WE BOTH BECAME LITTLE BOOK-WORMS HUH?
I NEVER MINDED GROWING UP TO BECOME A NORMAL HOUSEWIFE BUT I THINK BOTH OF US WERE HAPPY WHEN YOU BECAME A WRITER
ONLY FOR MAGAZINES THOUGH
WHATEVER! IT DOESN'T MATTER WHAT YOU DO WITH IT AS LONG AS YOU DO SOMETHING WITH IT JUST LOOK AT THE SHOP
IT'S LIKE THE BACK ROOM OF A USED BOOK SHOP IN HERE ISN'T IT
YOU COULDN'T BE BOTHERED TO STOP BY?
YOU KNOW DAD'S NOT THE ONLY ONE WHO WOULD LOVE TO SEE YOU
IT MUST BE MISERABLE FOR A MALE PARENT TO SURVIVE HIS WIFE
I CAN SYMPATHIZE WITH DAD..
WELL I DO TRY TO STOP IN EVERY NOW AND THEN MAKE SURE HE'S DOING ALRIGHT - WHAT ABOUT YOU

1
I THINK I MAY HAVE LEFT SOME THINGS UNPATCHED BUT UNTIL THE END, MY FATHER REMAINED ALOOF AND SILENT
THE NEXT DAY I LEFT MY FATHER AND SISTER'S TOWN AND RETURNED TO TOKYO

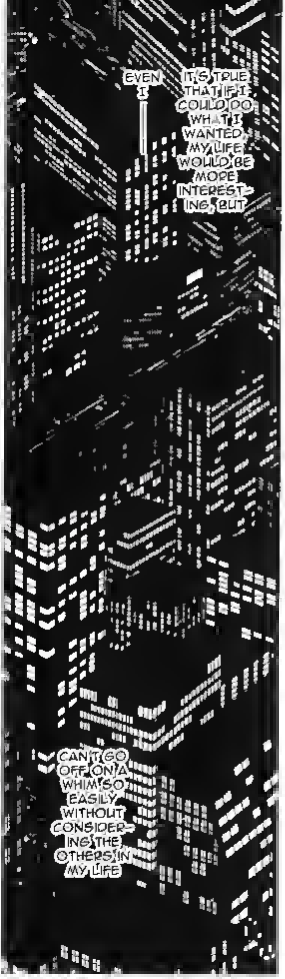
EEH
HERE YA GO. THIS IS THE FAX OF YOUR INTERVIEW CORRECTIONS FROM NARUSE KUNIHIKO~~~


THANKS FOR THE LEAVE. SORRY ABOUT THAT
IS YOUR FATHER ALRIGHT NOW?
AH. YEAH. SOMEHOW

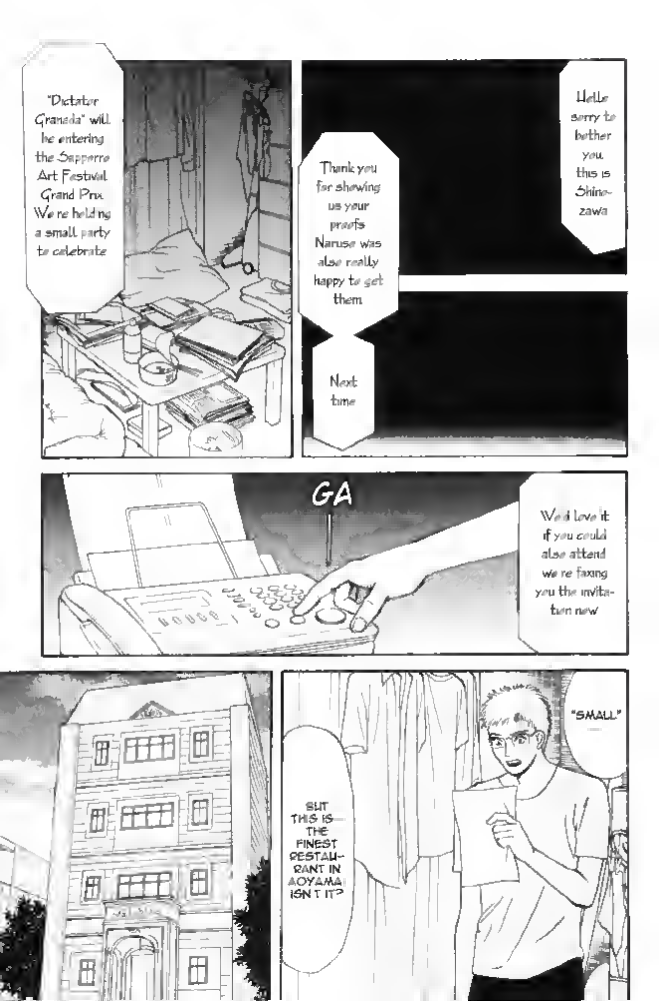
I'LL DO THIS!!
HOWEVER MANY PAGES HOWEVER LONG IT TAKES!!
STILL SUCKS THOUGH, HUH?
WHAT?
WE WERE GETTING FAXES FROM HIM ALL DAY LONG YESTERDAY
HE'S ADDED A VERITABLE STORM OF CORRECTIONS

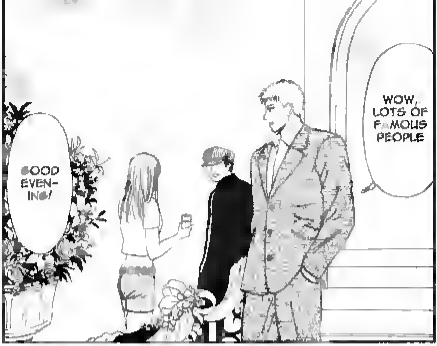
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT..
NAH YOU DON'T GET IT----
DON'T YOU THINK THAT'S LIKE STEPPING INTO THE MIND OF ANY ARTIST?
?
AREN'T YOU SCARED?
YOU'RE STEPPING INTO THE MIND OF AN EGOMANIAC----
A SUDDENLY RICH ARTIST WITH A BRILLIANT MENTOR, WONDERFUL!!
BUT EVEN BORING BOOKS AND MOVIES CAN HAVE INTERESTING INTRODUCTIONS AND HOW MANY TIMES HAVE I WRITTEN LAME HUMAN INTEREST ARTICLES ABOUT THOSE?!
THIS TIME IS DIFFERENT!! I'M ACTUALLY WRITING ABOUT SOMETHING GOOD!!
I HAVEN'T SEEN NAKATA WORK SO INTENTLY ON ANYTHING SINCE HE JOINED THE COMPANY
ME NEITHER..

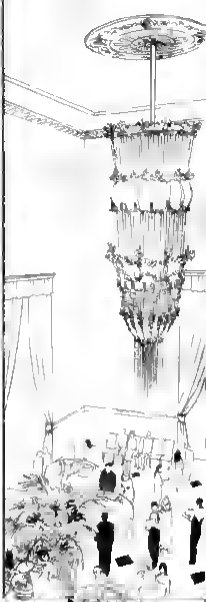
On his way from the theatre for his movie's premiere Goshima Eiji-san collapsed complaining of chest pain and was rushed to the hospital
This afternoon in Kanazawa there was an incident involving the director of a new film
I THINK IT'S PROBABLY THE BEST THING WE'VE GOT INSIDE THIS MONTH'S UPCOMING ISSUE------
I THINK WE'RE GOING TO GO WITH THE NAOUSE STORY AS OUR LEAD FEATURE
GOSHIMA-SAN? BUT HE'S ONLY WHAT? 70 YEARS OLD?
I HEARD THAT NAOUSE WAS HIS ONLY PUPIL TOO
YEAHHHH
IT REALLY IS RATHER DULL TO DO A JOB THAT ISN'T WHAT YOU LOVE TO DO, ISN'T IT--
NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT, OHARA-SAN YOU'VE BEEN A MEMBER OF OF THE CINEMA CLUB FOR A WHILE HAVEN'T YOU?
IT'S BECAUSE HE'S A MAJOR PUBLISHER
YEAH THEY'VE GOT A PRETTY OLD SYSTEM OVER THERE I'M ALLOWED IN BECAUSE I'M PRESS
HE'S QUITE A PERSON. HE'S HELD IN EXTREMELY HIGH ESTEEM BY THE CINEMA CLUB

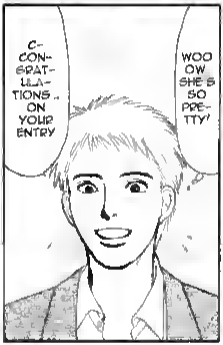

EVEN IF
IT'S TRUE THAT IF I COULD DO WHAT I WANTED MY LIFE WOULD BE MORE INTERESTING, BUT
CAN I GO OFF ON A WHIM SO EASILY WITHOUT CONSIDERING THE OTHERS IN MY LIFE

THAT WAS SUDDEN, WASN'T IT?
NO NO, I THINK IT'S A GOOD THING TO SAY, SO TRUE!
SO LET'S GOING THIS WEEK'S TRADITIONAL BAD-MOUTH-THE-BOSS MEETING TO SESSION!
BUT FIRST LET'S DRINK!"


"Dictator Granada" will be entering the Sapporo Art Festival Grand Prix. We're holding a small party to celebrate
Thank you for showing us your proofs. Naruse was also really happy to get them
Next time
Hello, sorry to bother you, this is Shinozawa
GA
Would love it if you could also attend, we're faxing you the invitation now
"SMALL"
BUT THIS IS THE FINEST RESTAURANT IN AOYAMA, ISN'T IT?


WOW, LOTS OF FAMOUS PEOPLE
GOOD EVENING!




WOO OW SHE'S SO PRETTY
C-CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR ENTRY

WELCOME

YOU SEEM A LITTLE TIRED ARE YOU SURE WE'RE NOT PUSHING YOU TOO HARD ON THE ARTICLE?
THANK YOU SO MUCH
NOT AT ALL

WE ALSO INVITED MUROI HITOSHI-SAN FROM YOUR PUBLISHING OFFICE BUT...
HE SAID THAT HIS WIFE AND CHILD WERE INVOLVED IN A CAR ACCIDENT AND HAD TO BE HOSPITALIZED...
I KNOW YOU'VE GOT A WIFE AND A LITTLE KID IN KINDERGARTEN...
YOU DON'T WANT ME GOING AFTER THEM DO YA!?
NO WAY
THAT WAS AN IDLE THREAT
JUST A COINCIDENCE
?
IS SOMETHING THE MATTER?
N-NO
BUT YOU DON'T LOOK SO GOOD..
UM... M-SAN
HOW DID N. RUSE'S FATHER DIE... DO YOU KNOW?

OR
COULD I BE JEALOUS OF THIS BEAUTIFUL WOMAN HE HAS?
COULD IT BE I'M JUST TRYING TO SHOCK MYSELF?
WHAT THE HELL AM I SAYING? I CAN'T GO CAUSING TROUBLE FOR THEM, IT'S THE PRINCIPAL OF THE THING!!
I WAS JUST THINKING IT CREATED A REALLY GOOD ATMOSPHERE TO DEVELOP HIS ARTISTIC TALENT FREELY
?
NO
WHY?
NOTHING HE JUST SAID THAT HE INHERITED THE ESTATE IN HIGH SCHOOL. THAT'S RARE, ISN'T IT?
AFTER THAT HE HAD ACCESS TO ALL THAT WEALTH

!!
HEEY, NAKATA-KUN!!
CON-CON-GRATU-LATIONS ON YOUR ENTRY
WE'RE TAKING A PICTURE N' I WANT YOU IN IT
YOU TOO A!!!
KU-KURIO HITOMI !?
THAT'S RIGHT NATU-RALLY, WE INVITED HER AS WELL
YEAH YEAH
NARUSE-SAN, HURRY UP
I FELT LIKE I HAD BEEN SUCKED INTO A GLAMOR-OUS FASHION MAGAZINE WHEN THE WOMAN PHOTOGRA-PHER SNAPPED THE SHUTTER
ALRIGHT, ONE MORE

CHAPTER 1 ✝ END

TRANSLATION TSURARA
EDITS KEY-LIME
SCANS TSURARA
QC TSURARA
DOKIDOKI - HTTP://WWW.ARAGAMI.ORG

独裁者グラナダ

DICTATOR GRANADA

第2話

CHAPTER 2

Today at 1 AM film genius Goshima Eiji passed away after being admitted to the hospital

Goshima Eiji's career is highlighted in his fantastic and stylish self-produced films ever popular with the younger generation.

製作 脚本 監督 五島英司

謝肉祭

カラー作品

His film "Carnivel" is acclaimed both here in Japan and abroad. It has recieved numerous international awards—

Various friends and industry insiders are making the pilgramidge to his home in Megure to pay their respects

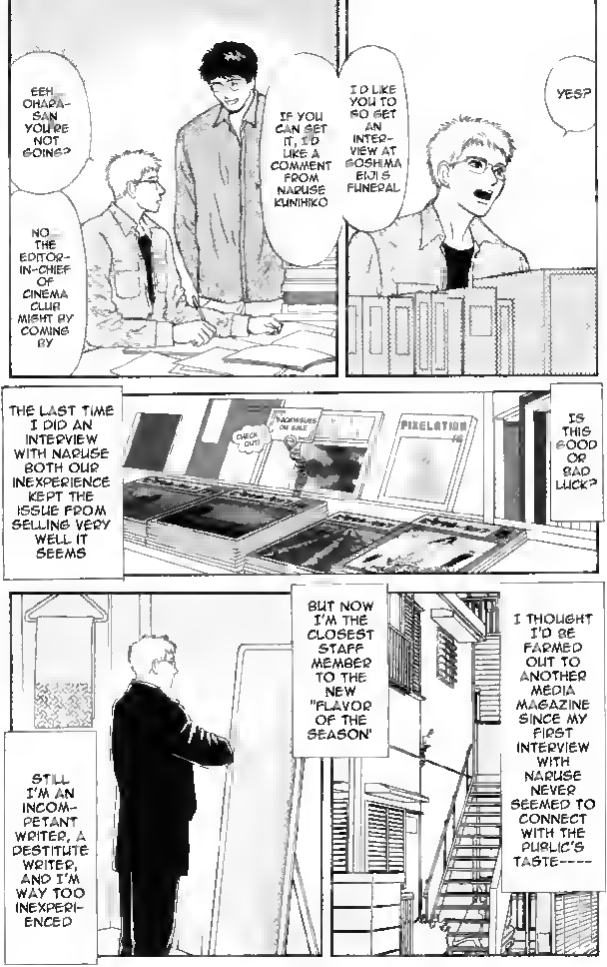
As the film world says goodbye to one of their own

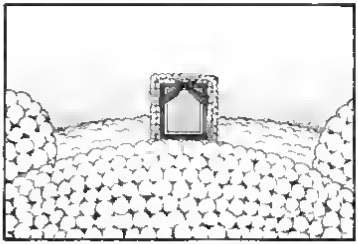
The cause of death was determined to be a lack of oxygen in the bloodstream. he was 70 years old. The funeral is to be announced

WELL I DON'T KNOW..

WILL PIXELATION RUN A GOSHIMA FEATURE? THE INTEREST LEVEL SHOULD BE SOARING

HEY.. NAKATAKIN!!


EEH, OHARA-SAN YOU'RE NOT GOING?
NO. THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF OF CINEMA CLUB MIGHT BY COMING BY
IF YOU CAN SET IT, I'D LIKE A COMMENT FROM NARUSE KUNIHIKO
I'D LIKE YOU TO GO GET AN INTER-VIEW AT GOSHIMA EIJI'S FUNERAL
YES?
THE LAST TIME I DID AN INTERVIEW WITH NARUSE BOTH OUR INEXPERIENCE KEPT THE ISSUE FROM SELLING VERY WELL IT SEEMS
PIXELATION
IS THIS GOOD OR BAD LUCK?
STILL I'M AN INCOM-PETANT WRITER, A DESTITUTE WRITER, AND I'M WAY TOO INEXPERI-ENCED
BUT NOW I'M THE CLOSEST STAFF MEMBER TO THE NEW "FLAVOR OF THE SEASON"
I THOUGHT I'D BE FARMED OUT TO ANOTHER MEDIA MAGAZINE SINCE MY FIRST INTERVIEW WITH NARUSE NEVER SEEMED TO CONNECT WITH THE PUBLIC'S TASTE----

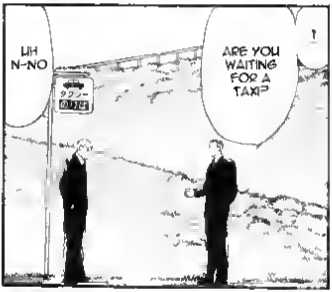


BUT AT THE TIME I WAS STILL VERY MUCH CLINGING TO MY ANXIETIES ABOUT THOSE THINGS----

SET A HOLD OF YOURSELF!!
sniff sniff
sniff sniff
WAAH WAAAH
WOW
SO-SHIMA MUST'VE REALLY BEEN SOMETHING
OF ALL HIS DISCIPLES YOU'RE THE MOST LIKELY TO SUCCEED HIM I'M SURE EVEN HE WOULD BE HONORED!
whisper whisper
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT IT'S ALL SO SUDDEN..
SO-SHIMA-SAN
YEAH
THANK YOU BOTH!!
HE WAS GOOD TO YOU, WASN'T HE? BUT DON'T LET IT GET YOU DOWN FOR TOO LONG!!
I'M GOING TO GIVE YOU MY BUSINESS CARD
IF YOU NEED ANYTHING, CALL ME

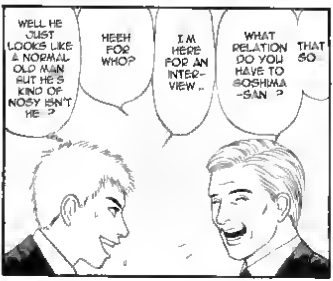
HANG ON I WANT TO GIVE HIM MY CARD
THE CLAY-MATION ARTIST?
THAT'S NARUSE KUNIHIKO HE'S QUITE POPULAR NOW
HUH WHO'S THAT? HE'S TALL

NO WAY, HE'S GOT TO BE DEVISTATED!!
COULD IT BE HE'S USING THIS AS A PUBLICITY STUNT?
THE GUESTS AT THE GATE ARE MAJOR FILM DISTRIBUTION COMPANY MEMBERS, FAMOUS PRODUCERS AND OTHER IMPORTANT PEOPLE...


UH N-NO
ARE YOU WAITING FOR A TAXI?

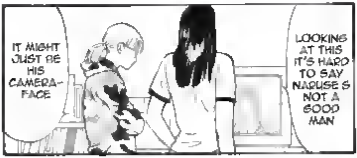
THAT I HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO SPEAK TO HIM YET--?
MAYBE I SHOULD WAIT IN THE PARKING LOT

BUT WHY IS IT


WELL HE JUST LOOKS LIKE A NORMAL OLD MAN BUT HE'S KIND OF NOSY ISN'T HE?
HEEH FOR WHO?
I'M HERE FOR AN INTERVIEW..
WHAT RELATION DO YOU HAVE TO SOSHIKA-SAN?
THAT SO

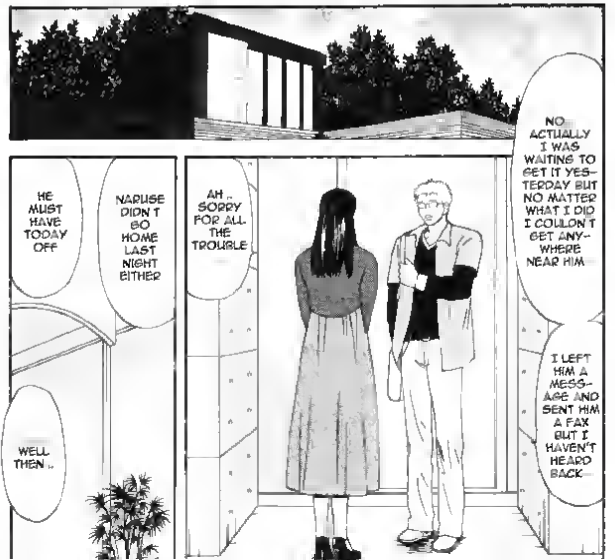
I DID GET A CHANCE TO READ THAT WONDERFUL INTERVIEW WITH NAPUSE-KUN THEY RAN
EEEEH !?
AAH YES, I KNOW IT! IT'S BEEN SOME YEARS SINCE MY ASSOCIATE GOSHIMA-SAN'S BEEN FEATURED BUT
FOR "PIXELATION", IT'S A MEDIA MAGAZINE
NOT AT ALL, DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT
AAH I'M SO HONORED TO MEET YOU I'M SORRY I DIDN'T SAY SO EARLIER!
It's nothing, take my business card
THAT'S RIGHT
TANABE YUTAKA-SAN?
GO-SHIMA-SAN'S ASSOCIATE YOU SAID
TODAY SEEMS TO BE MORE ABOUT NAPUSE-KUN THAN ANYTHING ELSE DOESN'T IT?
I KNOW THE MAGAZINES CAME CALLING WHEN HE WAS STILL JUST A STUDENT BUT---
TODAY IS A BIT OF A SHOCK TO EVERYONE
GOSHIMA-SAN WASN'T ONE TO TALK ILL OF ANYONE, BUT
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING..?
HUH?

VROOOM
!!
THE TRUTH IS, HE NEVER MUCH CARED FOR NARUSE-KUN, IN SPITE OF HAVING TAKEN HIM IN AS A STUDENT APPARENTLY THEY DIDN'T GET ALONG WELL AT ALL
SORRY, IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME!
TANABE-SAN... UM...
BUT I NEVER HEARD GOSHIMA-SAN'S SIDE OF IT
WHAT I JUST HEARD— GOSHIMA EIJI—
THIS HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH ME (OR SO I WANT TO BELIEVE)
I DON'T NEED TO LISTEN TO EVERY-THING...
I'VE GOT TO DO MY JOB BUT


IT MIGHT JUST BE HIS CAMERA-FACE
LOOKING AT THIS IT'S HARD TO SAY NAGUSE'S NOT A GOOD MAN

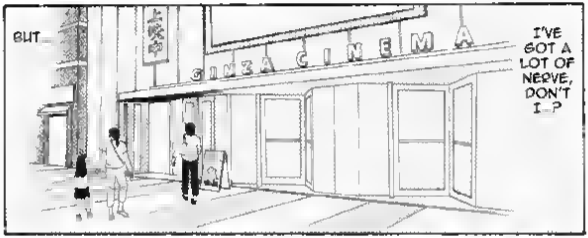
I think the world's just lost one if its best

WELL? DID YOU GET A COMMENT FOR ME TODAY?
MUST BE NICE TO BE SO AT EASE IN A CROWD
.....


NO... ACTUALLY I WAS WAITING TO GET IT YESTERDAY BUT NO MATTER WHAT I DID I COULDN'T GET ANYWHERE NEAR HIM
I LEFT HIM A MESSAGE AND SENT HIM A FAX BUT I HAVEN'T HEARD BACK
AH... SORRY FOR ALL THE TROUBLE
NAGUSE DIDN'T GO HOME LAST NIGHT EITHER
HE MUST HAVE TODAY OFF
WELL THEN...

BUT... BUT...
NO... AND EVEN IF HE IS, THAT DOESN'T HURT ME AT ALL
THAT GUY IS A FAKER THEN..?
UM
.....
AI-SAN ARE YOU FREE TO GO OUT NOW?!
HUH!?
HE COULDN'T HAVE GONE TO PLAY WITH ANOTHER GIRL IN A TIME OF MOURNING..?!
KUPIO HITOMI'S STUDIO IS NEARBY THE FUNERAL SITE, PERHAPS HE'S GONE THERE FOR THE TIME BEING...
YOU'D THINK NOT, BUT

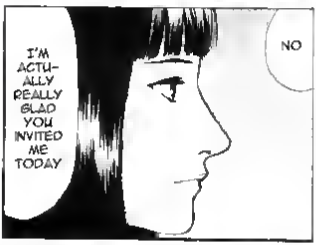
LET'S GO!!
TO A MOVIE OR WHAT-EVER


BUT...
GINZA CINEMA
I'VE GOT A LOT OF NERVE, DON'T I...?

WHY DID I DECIDE TO TAKE HER TO A MOVIE LIKE THIS~~~~~~~~~~?
I SCREW-ED UP.

I...
IS THAT SO..?
I REALLY RATHER LIKE IT WHEN ALL THE CHARACTERS DIE
I HATE HAPPY ENDINGS

TH..THAT WAS PRETTY SCARY WASN'T IT ?
? YOU THINK SO?


I'M ACTUALLY REALLY GLAD YOU INVITED ME TODAY
NO

YOU ARE, AREN'T YOU?
I'M SORRY YOU MUST BE BORED

K's Cafeteria
U-UM

?
NO
AREN'T YOU GOING TO MARRY NARUSE-KUN?

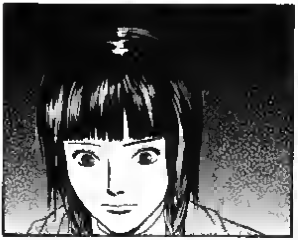
I...
I ONCE FELT TOTALLY STRANGLED BY THE EXPECTATIONS OF MY PARENTS AND EVERYONE AROUND ME...
HEY HEY
IT'S TOO SELFISH
BUT IT LOOKS LIKE HE'S JUST USING YOU, AI-SAN
WH-WHY NOT?
HE SAID HE DIDN'T WANT TO GET MARRIED AND THAT'S ALRIGHT AS LONG AS WE CAN BE TOGETHER
I WAS ALWAYS DOING THINGS LIKE THIS TO MYSELF
THE KARATE CLUB AT MY UNIVERSITY USED TO RUN LAPS FOR PRACTICE
AND HE WAS ALWAYS RUNNING BY HIMSELF
AND THEN I MET HIM...

YOU'RE REALLY A SELF-RIGHTEOUS STUCK UP LITTLE BITCH, AREN'T YOU?!
YOU'RE REALLY INTO YOURSELF

HAVE YOU EVER CUT DEEP ENOUGH TO ACTUALLY ENDANGER YOUR LIFE?
WHAT?

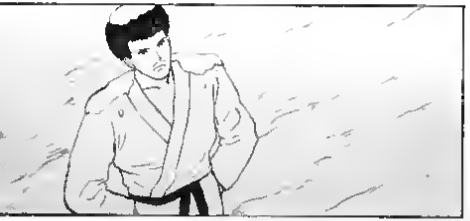
THEN ONE DAY BY CHANCE, I TOLD HIM ABOUT IT
AND THEN

DO YOU WANT TO BE THAT WAY FOREVER?
DON'T TALK TO ME AGAIN. I HAVE BETTER THINGS TO DO THAN JOIN IN SOME LITTLE GIRL'S PITY PARTY



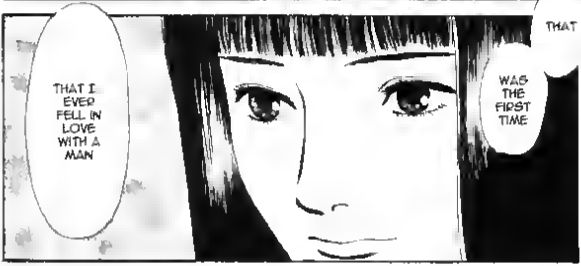
I HAD BEEN EDUCATED ABROAD AND HAD ALWAYS HAD THE TOP GRADES IN WHATEVER SCHOOL I ENTERED
U... USELESS GIRL.
YOU'VE NEVER WANTED FOR ANYTHING YOU'VE BEEN PAMPERED AND JUST WANT TO STAY THAT WAY. YOUR PARENTS ARE JUST AS MUCH TO BLAME FOR YOU BEING A USELESS GIRL.

WHY COULDN'T I BRING MYSELF TO CRY?



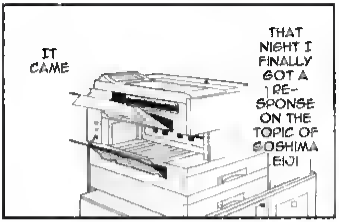
BUT HE DIDN'T HAVE ANYONE LIKE I DID... AND I KNEW THAT HIS FATHER HAD DIED

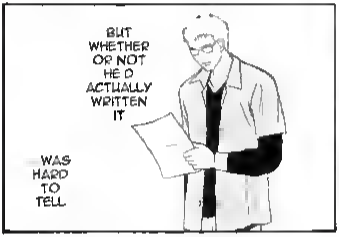
AND WHAT'S MORE EVERY-THING HE SAID TO ME WAS TRUE


THAT I EVER FELL IN LOVE WITH A MAN
THAT WAS THE FIRST TIME

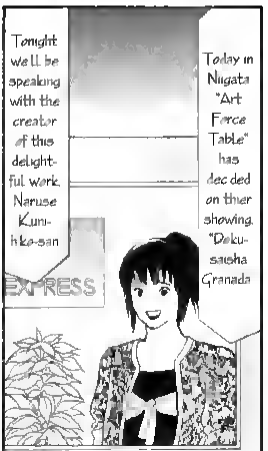
MAYBE IT WAS JUST TRYING TO READ TOO MUCH ABOUT HIM BASED
THE BAD FEELINGS I HAVE ABOUT ALL THIS
WOULD HE REALLY CHEAT ON A GIRL LIKE THIS?
SOMETHING AS INTENSE AS THAT HAPPENED?

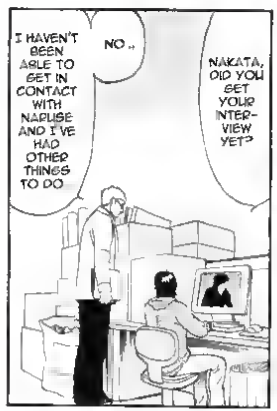
OVER THE HEARTS OF OTHERS, IS A PEAL DICTATOR...
BUT ANYONE WHO HOLDS SWAY
THANK YOU... FOR TAKING PITY ON ME
I'M... GOING TO LIE ABOUT NARUSE ABOUT TODAY
NOW I'VE GOT A MUCH BETTER IDEA OF WHAT SHE'S LIKE
IT'S A LITTLE TWISTED, BUT EITHER WAY I FEEL LIKE I'VE GOTTEN UNDER THAT GIRL'S SHELL A BIT
"THEN I'VE GOTTA GET OUT OF H... UHMM I MEAN WOULD YOU TELL HIM ABOUT THE FAX I SENT HIM ABOUT GETTING A COMMENT ABOUT MOSHIMA-SAN?
!
IT LOOKS... LIKE HE'S BACK
ALRIGHT I WILL

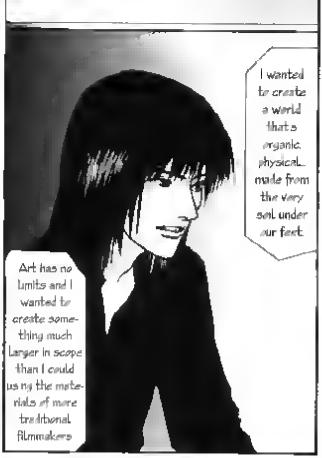

IT CAME
THAT NIGHT I FINALLY GOT A RE-SPONSE ON THE TOPIC OF GOSHIMA ENJI


BUT WHETHER OR NOT HE D ACTUALLY WRITTEN IT
WAS HARD TO TELL

Lately CG animation is quite en vogue. I think Claymation's really fallen out of fash on with filmmakers as a whole.
Kurio Hitomi-san's production video has really put a shart of the spotlight on you as an animator hasn't it?
But I don't really care for the trend. I only want to share my visuen with the world in a way that will resonate—

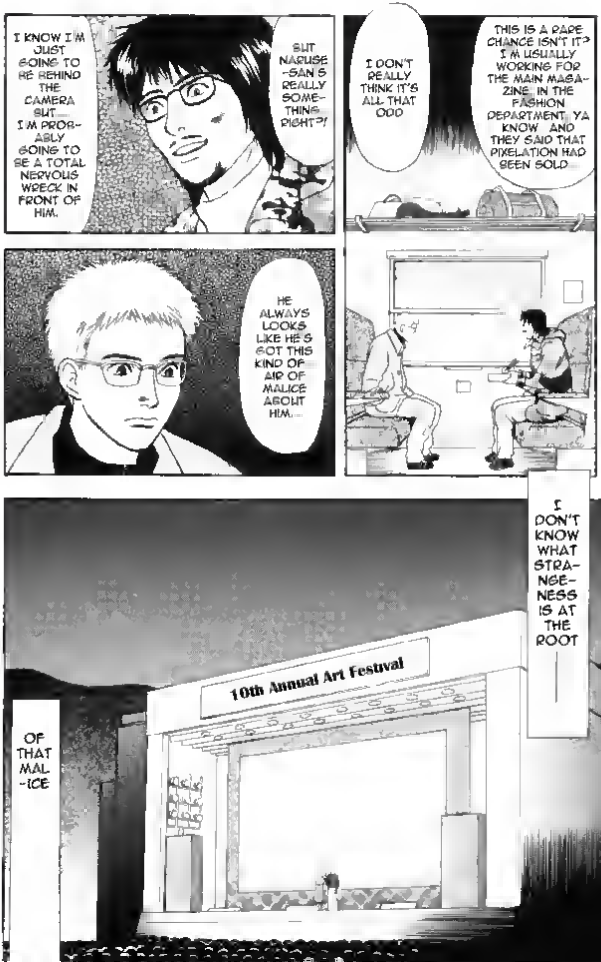

Tonight we'll be speaking with the creator of this delightful work. Naruse Kunihko-san
EXPRESS
Today in Niigata "Art Force Table" has decided on thier showing. "Dekusaeha Granada

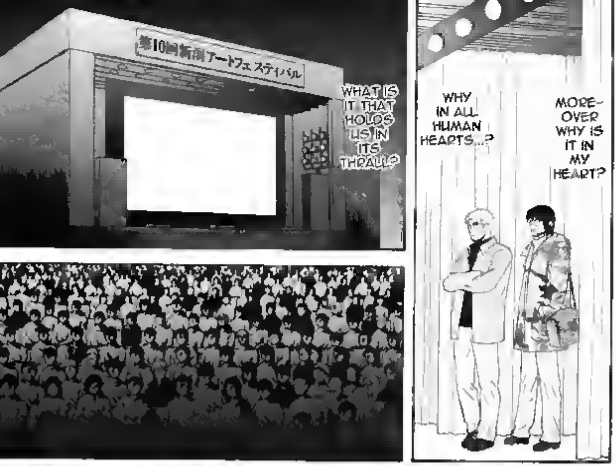

I HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO GET IN CONTACT WITH NAPUSE AND I'VE HAD OTHER THINGS TO DO
NO..
NAKATA, DID YOU GET YOUR INTER-VIEW YET?


I wanted to create a world that's organic, physical... made from the very soil under our feet.
Art has no limits and I wanted to create something much larger in scope than I could using the materials of more traditional filmmakers

I'M EXHAUSTED BY ALL THIS... BUT...
IT'S ALMOST LIKE I'M NAPUSE'S PRISONER

KNEW THAT WAS COMING
AH NAKATA-KUN WOULD YOU GO WITH OUR CAMERAMAN ICHIJOU-KUN TO NIIGATA?

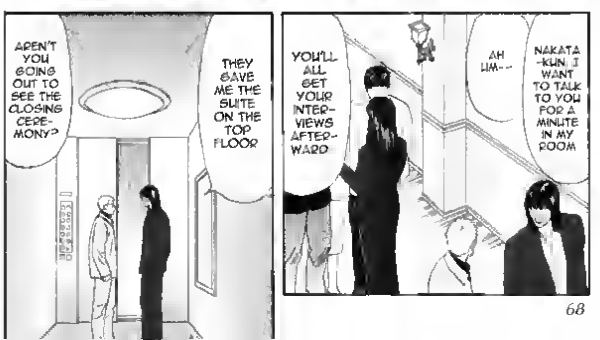

I KNOW I'M JUST GOING TO BE BEHIND THE CAMERA BUT... I'M PROBABLY GOING TO BE A TOTAL NERVOUS WRECK IN FRONT OF HIM.
BUT NARUSE-SAN'S REALLY SOMETHING, RIGHT?!
I DON'T REALLY THINK IT'S ALL THAT ODD
THIS IS A RARE CHANCE, ISN'T IT? I'M USUALLY WORKING FOR THE MAIN MAGAZINE IN THE FASHION DEPARTMENT, YA KNOW. AND THEY SAID THAT PIXELATION HAD BEEN SOLD...
HE ALWAYS LOOKS LIKE HE'S GOT THIS KIND OF AIR OF MALICE ABOUT HIM...
I DON'T KNOW WHAT STRANGENESS IS AT THE ROOT
10th Annual Art Festival
OF THAT MAL-ICE


第10回新潮アートフェスティバル
WHAT IS IT THAT HOLDS US IN ITS THRALL?
WHY IN ALL HUMAN HEARTS...?
MORE-OVER WHY IS IT IN MY HEART?

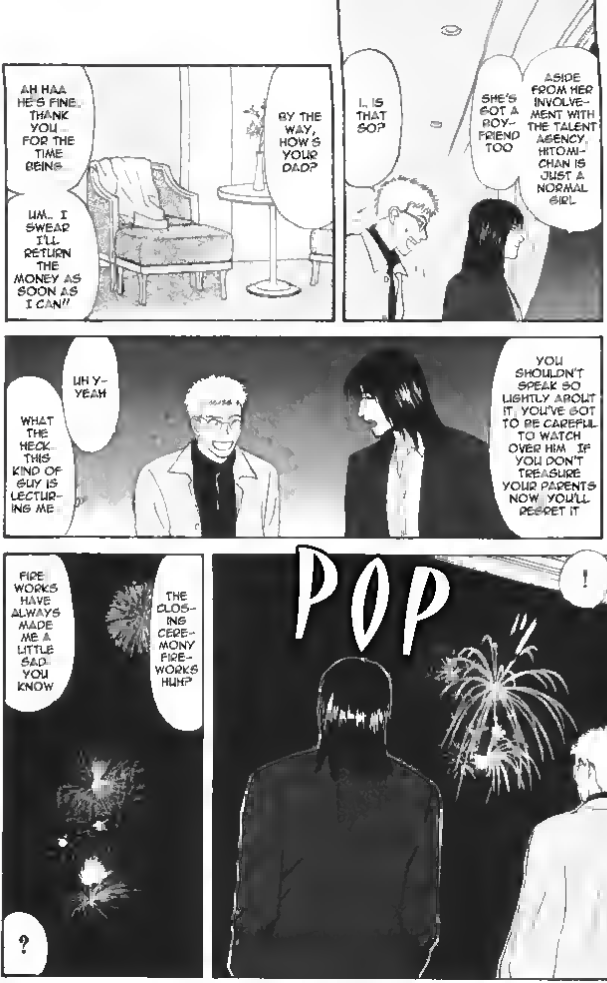
NAKATA-KUN!

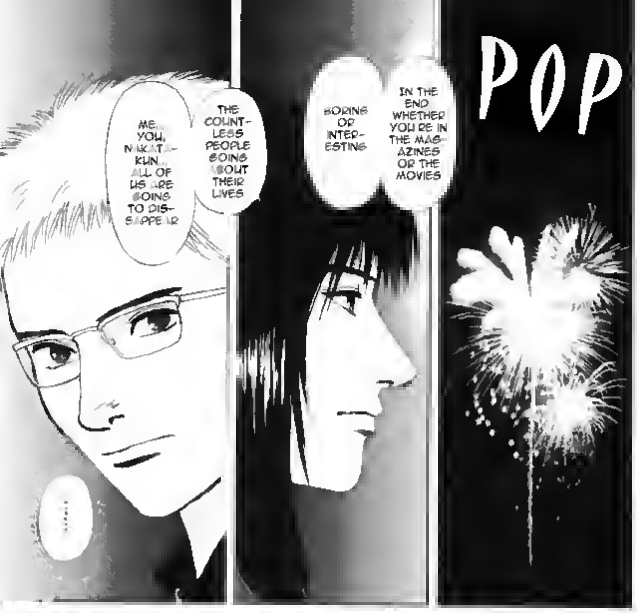
HI...
...H...
GOOD EVEN-ING
DID YOU COME FOR AN INTER-VIEW? IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME!!
NARUSE-SAN!!

I'M FROM MONTHLY MOVIE ONE. I WONDER COULD YOU--
EXCUSE US, NARUSE-KUN. WE'RE FROM NIIGATA TELEVISION. WE WONDER IF WE COULD GET A COMMENT--


AREN'T YOU GOING OUT TO SEE THE CLOSING CERE-MONY?
THEY GAVE ME THE SUITE ON THE TOP FLOOR
YOU'LL ALL GET YOUR INTER-VIEWS AFTER-WARD
AH HM--
NAKATA-KUN. I WANT TO TALK TO YOU FOR A MINUTE IN MY ROOM

---I GESS WE CAN
WE CAN SEE IT JUST FINE FROM HERE
!!
I'LL GIVE HER TO YOU.
IF YOU LOVE AI
NA-NARUSE-SAN, YOU JUST NEED TO TAKE AI-SAN A BIT MORE SERIOUSLY, BE MORE CAREFUL WITH HER FEELINGS, RIGHT!?
WHAT THE HELL, WHAT'S WITH THIS GUY,.?!
YOU CAN'T GO PLAYING AROUND WITH KURO-SAN WHENEVER YOU FEEL LIKE IT!!
THAT'S NOT IT...
BUT ONLY ON THE CONDITION THAT YOU MAKE HER HAPPY IN MY PLACE...
WHAT'S THIS ALL OF A SUDDEN?


ASIDE FROM HER INVOLVEMENT WITH THE TALENT AGENCY, HITOMI-CHAN IS JUST A NORMAL GIRL
SHE'S GOT A BOYFRIEND TOO
I, IS THAT SO?
BY THE WAY, HOW'S YOUR DAD?
AH HAA HE'S FINE. THANK YOU FOR THE TIME BEING
UM... I SWEAR I'LL RETURN THE MONEY AS SOON AS I CAN!!
YOU SHOULDN'T SPEAK SO LIGHTLY ABOUT IT. YOU'VE GOT TO BE CAREFUL TO WATCH OVER HIM IF YOU DON'T TREASURE YOUR PARENTS NOW, YOU'LL REGRET IT
UH Y-YEAH
WHAT THE HECK. THIS KIND OF GUY IS LECTURING ME
POP
!
THE CLOSING CEREMONY FIREWORKS HUH?
FIREWORKS HAVE ALWAYS MADE ME A LITTLE SAD. YOU KNOW
?


ME, YOU, NAKATA-KUN... ALL OF US ARE GOING TO DISAPPEAR
THE COUNTLESS PEOPLE GOING ABOUT THEIR LIVES
BORING OR INTERESTING
IN THE END WHETHER YOU'RE IN THE MAGAZINES OR THE MOVIES
POP

I OCCASIONALLY SAW THE SAME, DEEP SADNESS IN HIM
EVEN I FEEL INSIGNIFICANT
FOR AN INSTANT
EVEN IF YOU BELIEVE THAT WE GO TO ANOTHER PLACE

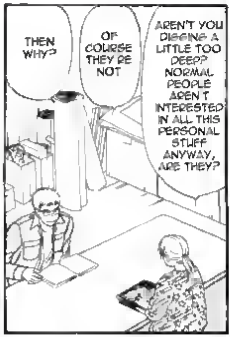
IF YOU THINK YOU CAN, MAYBE YOU SHOULD WRITE A BOOK-----
POP
FROM WHAT I'VE SEEN ALONE, I CAN TELL THAT ALL THIS DEEP SADNESS AND DEEP THOUGHT ISN'T FOR NOTHING
I WANT TO SEE MORE OF YOUR WORK, NAPUSE-SAN THERE'S SO MUCH MORE YOU CAN DO

THAT NIGHT
AND WHEN YOU READ IT, YOU'LL PRAISE ME!
I WILL THEN
THINK SO?
IN THAT INTERVIEW, NAPUSE TOLD ME ALL ABOUT HIS GRAND ASPIRATIONS AND BECOMING A NOVELIST AND THE MAGNUM OPUS HE WAS CURRENTLY CONCIEVING
I GOT MY INTERVIEW AND SOME PICTURES, THEN WENT BACK TO TOKYO FIRST THING IN THE MORNING
第10回新潟アートフェスティバル

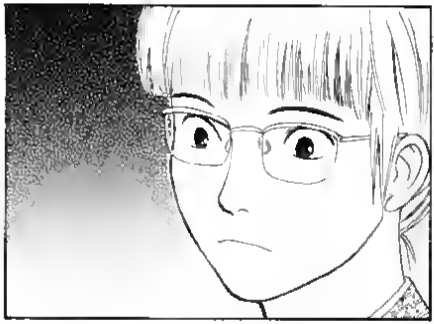
I-IT WAS TRUE ...
!!
I SAW I SAW HE'S TOTALLY HOT!
IS IT TRUE SHE'S GONNA RETIRE?
HEY, IT SAID HITOMI'S BOY-FRIEND'S A MODEL?
MUROI-SAN
!
OHARA-SAN YOU HAVE A VISITOR
WHO IS IT?
SOME-HOW THIS MAKES ME SAD...
DENON
I JUST MADE IT, BUT HERE'S THE MANU-SCRIPT
THANK YOU FOR ALL THE TROUBLE PLEASE SIT!!

I HEARD THAT HIS WIFE'S BEEN HOSPITALIZED AGAIN...
HE LOOKS LIKE SHIT. DOESN'T HE-----
HUH? MUROI HITOSHI?
INSTEAD, IT BEGAN TO SEEM LIKE EVERYONE FROM ALL FORMS OF MEDIA, FROM CRESSES TO MANGA ARTISTS, WERE ALL SINGING NARUSE'S PRAISES-
AND NATURALLY NO ONE ELSE DARED CRITICIZE HIM TOO HARSHLY
THAT MUROI HAD CRITICIZED NARUSE AND THEN FALLEN VICTIM TO HIS RETRIBUTION HAD BECOME RUMOR
FROM WHAT ALL THAT'S WRITTEN HERE IS "ILLNESS"
DEATH WAS
NARUSE YUKIHIKO'S
AS FOR ME
THE JURY'S STILL OUT

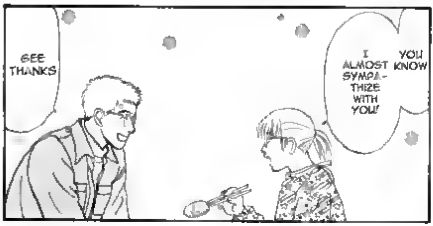
BUT IT'S MY JOB TO KEEP TRACK OF ALL THE DIRT ON ALL THE IDOLS
I'VE HEARD OF HER BUT THAT'S TOUGHIE
WHAT-EVER HAP-PENED TO JINNO YURIKO?
NAPUSE YUKIHIKO'S WIFE, WAS AN ACTRESS WHO ONLY EVER WORKED ON ONE FILM---
Well, let's see, the last I've got on her is that she got rem-married to someone
WELL I'D NEVER HEARD OF THIS FROM TSUGAWA-SAN
By the way Nakata-kun, why have you become so obsessed all of a sudden?
THEN NOW SHE'S STILL JUST A NORMAL HOUSE-WIFE?
Well she went back to her home town and did some work there
It looks like a case of turning her life back around by going back to her roots
FOR SOME REASON, SHE LEFT HIM FIVE YEARS BEFORE
I SEE


THEN WHY?
OF COURSE THEY'RE NOT
AREN'T YOU DIGGING A LITTLE TOO DEEP? NORMAL PEOPLE AREN'T INTERESTED IN ALL THIS PERSONAL STUFF. ANYWAY, ARE THEY?

THEN NARUSE'S MOTHER RAN OUT ON HE AND HIS FATHER— WHEN HE WAS STILL IN MIDDLE SCHOOL.



WHAT KIND OF MAN WAS HIS FATHER? AND WHAT KIND OF A KID WAS HE—?



I WAS STILL JUST A CHILD I COULDN'T SEPERATE PEOPLE FROM THE THINGS THEY CREATED BUT
Machida Book Port
WHEN I SAW HOW FAT AND UGLY SHE WAS I WAS TOTALLY SHOCKED
A LONG TIME AGO I WENT TO A SIGNING BY A SHOUJO NOVELIST I LOVED
I THINK A LOT OF ARTISTS CREATE TO COVER UP THE PAIN OF WHAT THEY KNOW TO BE THEIR OWN DEFECTS
WELL, YOU KNOW
THOUGH NOW LOOKING BACK ON IT I CAN RECALL IT ALL SO MUCH MORE OBJECTIVELY, IT WAS A BIT HARD TO TAKE AT THE TIME
I'M SORRY
THAT PERSON UNDER HER VOICE SAID
AND I NEVER FORGOT IT
TO ME
I JUST GOT A BIT OF INSPIRATION TO MOTIVATE ME!
WOW, WHAT'S WITH YOU TODAY NAKATA-KUN?

NABUSE-SAN
MMYEAH?
HUH?
What the hell are you snooping around for?
THE ADVANCE COPY DID YOU LOOK AT IT?
WH-WHAT IS IT?
IS HE SERIOUS?! IT'S FOUR AM...
That you've been looking for stuff about my parents and I
Don't play dumb! You really think I don't know?
SNOOPING?

COULD THIS GUY BE TAPPING MY PHONE?!
How about trying to tell me what you're after?
...WHAT I'M AFTER?

AND WHAT WILL YOU DO WHEN YOU KNOW?
I JUST WANTED TO KNOW MORE ABOUT YOU NARUSE-SAN
YOU'VE GOTTEN CLOSE TO ME AND YOU KNOW WHAT I'M LIKE WELL ENOUGH NOW, DON'T YOU?
SO I DECIDED TO DO A LITTLE HOME-WORK ON YOU TOO

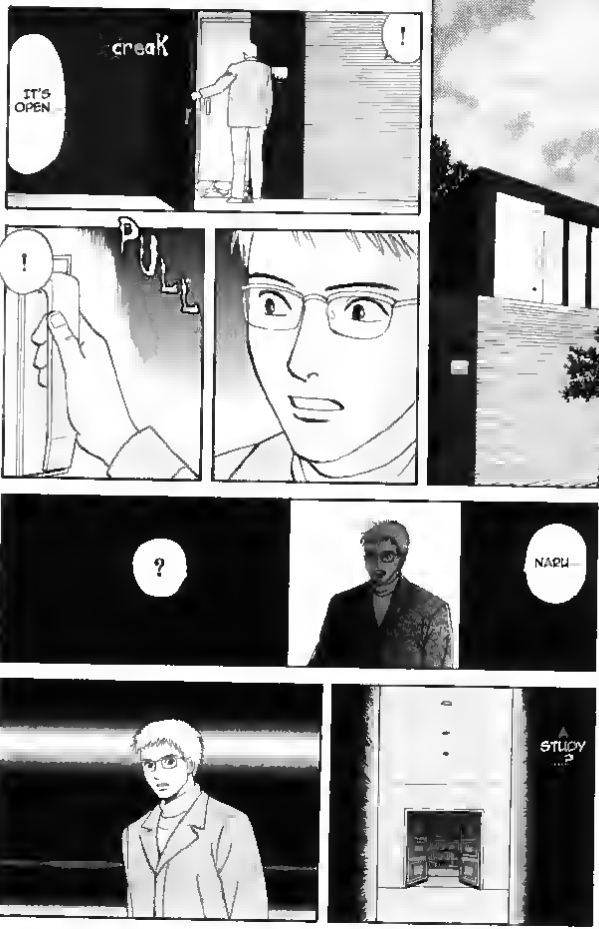
I ONLY WANTED TO SATISFY MY OWN PERSONAL CURIOSITY
I WAS MOVED BY YOUR WORK, NARUSE-SAN BUT
I DIDN'T WANT TO DOUBT YOU THE WAY I HAD BEEN

THEY SAY THAT THE CREATOR AND THE CREATION ARE TWO SEPERATE ANIMALS BUT I DON'T THINK THAT'S TRUE
YOU'RE NEARLY PERFECT AS A DIRECTOR, NAPUSE-SAN
BUT I WANT TO KNOW WHAT IT IS THAT DRIVES THE AMBITION I SEE IN YOU
THEN I'LL TELL YOU
I'VE GOT MONEY AND TALENT
BUT THERE'S ONLY ONE THING I CAN SAY THAT I HAVEN'T GOT
AND THAT'S WHAT I WANT MORE THAN ANYTHING
It's "fame"

click
NARU
Okay? Come get your interview and be the good sensible officeman you are!
Just be sure to praise me
BUT WHAT THE HELL AM I DOING?
AND TERRIBLE PERSON... MUCH MORE THAN I EXPECTED
HE'S SUCH A HURTFUL
OF ALL THE PEOPLE I COULD GET CLOSE TO... HE'S PROBABLY THE WORST?
IT'S ALWAYS BEEN MY POLICY TO KEEP FROM GETTING TOO CLOSE TO ANYONE IN ORDER TO PROTECT MYSELF
SUCH AN OMINOUS AND MYSTERIOUS MAN

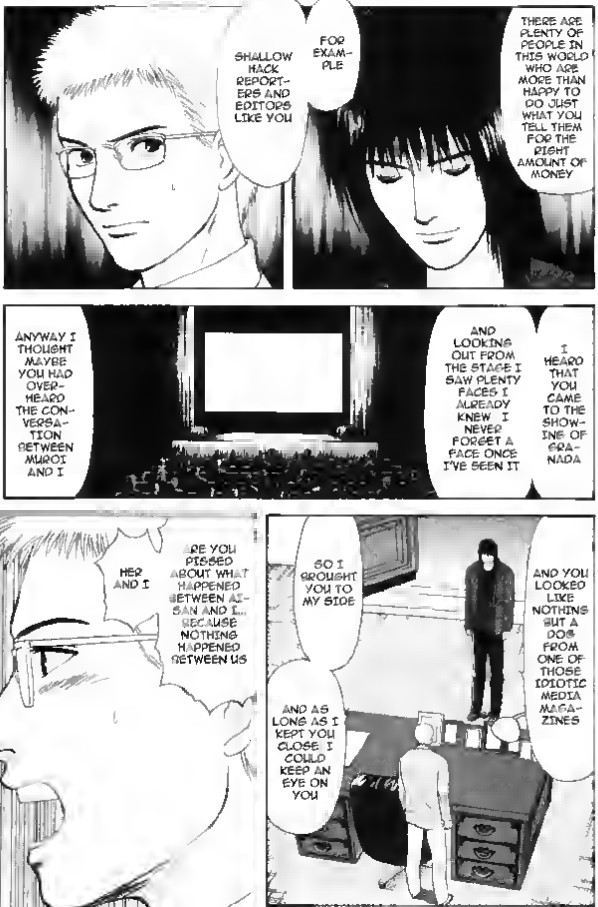
EEH
GRANADA IS ENTERED IN AN INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL?!
YOU HADN'T HEARD, NAKATA-KUN?
BARCELONA AND BERLIN THEY SAY
WHAT CONNECTIONS DID HE USE TO MANAGE THAT DO YOU SUPPOSE?
WHO KNOWS
I'M PRETTY SURE NO ONE ON THE FESTIVAL BOARD'S EVER HEARD THE NAME "NARUSE KUNIHIKO" BEFORE THOUGH..
THE PRESIDENT'S REALLY GOT A CHIP ON HIS SHOULDER OVER SELLING ALL THOSE BACK-NUMBERS, HUH?
TCH
ISN'T HE THE ONE WHO TRIED TO SELL US ON THE GROUNDS THAT "THIS IS A COMPANY THAT SPECIALIZES IN FASHION"

M-ME?
BUT REGARDLESS OF WHETHER OR NOT HE TAKES THE AWARD WON'T YOU INTERVIEW HIM, FAIR OR FOUL?
WELL YOU'RE THE NARUSE-EXPERT HERE
HE'S AFTER...?
COULD THIS... BE THE "FAME"
BUT IF HE WON THE PRIZE IT WOULD BE QUITE AN ACHIEVE-MENT
IT IS
THE COMPE-TITION'S PRETTY FIERCE THOUGH, ISN'T IT?
NOT TO GO
I COULD NOT THINK OF ANY REA-SON
JUST THAT HAS TO BE ALRIGHT
I DO MY JOB


creak
IT'S OPEN
!
PULL
!
?
NAPU
STUDY 2

WOW
WHAT AN INCREDIBLE STUDY...!!
A PHOTO OF HIS FATHER...?
AND NARUSE'S
SEEMS LIKE HE WAS DOTED ON LIKE A TYPICAL ONLY CHILD
THAT'S AN EXPENSIVE TOY
I COULD NEVER GET ANYONE TO BUY ME SOMETHING LIKE THAT
!

ABOUT MUROI HIROSHI'S FAMILY...!?
THIS IS A WRITTEN REPORT BY A PRIVATE INVESTIGATOR
I THOUGHT YOU'D GO SNOOPING IF I LEFT IT OPEN
THIS IS
I'VE GOT ONE ON YOU TOO
I HIRED OUT A PRIVATE INVESTIGATOR
"... YOU'VE HAD SOMEONE HURT MUROI'S FAMILY...
THEN YOU REALLY DID


SHALLOW HACK REPORTERS AND EDITORS LIKE YOU
FOR EXAMPLE
THERE ARE PLENTY OF PEOPLE IN THIS WORLD WHO ARE MORE THAN HAPPY TO DO JUST WHAT YOU TELL THEM FOR THE RIGHT AMOUNT OF MONEY
ANYWAY I THOUGHT MAYBE YOU HAD OVERHEARD THE CONVERSATION BETWEEN MUROI AND I
I HEARD THAT YOU CAME TO THE SHOWING OF GRANADA
AND LOOKING OUT FROM THE STAGE I SAW PLENTY FACES I ALREADY KNEW I NEVER FORGET A FACE ONCE I'VE SEEN IT
HER AND I
ARE YOU PISSED ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED BETWEEN AI-SAN AND I... BECAUSE NOTHING HAPPENED BETWEEN US
SO I BROUGHT YOU TO MY SIDE
AND AS LONG AS I KEPT YOU CLOSE I COULD KEEP AN EYE ON YOU
AND YOU LOOKED LIKE NOTHING BUT A DOG FROM ONE OF THOSE IDIOTIC MEDIA MAGAZINES

I CAN GIVE THE ASSIGNMENT TO SOMEONE ELSE AT THE OFFICE-
THEN IT'S BECAUSE OF THE ARTICLE I WROTE ABOUT YOU YOU DON'T LIKE IT
NO
SOMEDAY AT'S GOING TO LEAVE ME BE IT SOONER OR LATER!
I WON'T WANT TO WASTE MY ENTIRE LIFE LISTENING TO INSINCERE PEOPLE WHOSE OPINIONS I HAVE TO BUY!
NO! I WANT TO HEAR WRITERS WHO I HAVEN'T GOT IN THE PALM OF MY HAND SAY SOMETHING ABOUT MY WORK
AND ARE YOU GOING BETRAY ME OVER SOMEONE LIKE MUROI?
WERE YOU JUST FLATTERING ME ABOUT THE BOOK?
SO!
IN A FEW YEARS I'LL PAY YOU BACK ALL I OWE YOU

THIS IS ENOUGH! I'M OUT
YOU CAN'T BE!
I CAN'T KEEP DOING THIS
YOU'RE CRAZY!!

YOU CAME FROM A MAGA-ZINE SO DO WHAT MAGA-ZINE PEOPLE DO!!
I WANT TO HEAR MORE OF YOUR SUCK-ING UP

IT'S A META-PHOR FOR YOUR OWN INFLATED EGO!!
Y-YOU'RE YOUR OWN DICTA-TOR! THE ONE YOU WROTE ABOUT!!

YOU THINK I'M GOING TO BREAK DOWN AND CRY THAT EASILY?!
THANK YOU FOR THAT SPLENDID ANALYSIS
YOU KNOW, YOU'RE GOING TO COME CRAWL-ING BACK TO ME!!
I KNOW IT!!

CHAPTER 2 ★ END

TRANSLATION TSURARA
EDITS KEY-LIME
SCANS/QC TSURARA
DOKIDOKI -
HTTP://WWW.ARAGAMI.ORG

SPECIAL INTERVIEW

Godlike Narrator

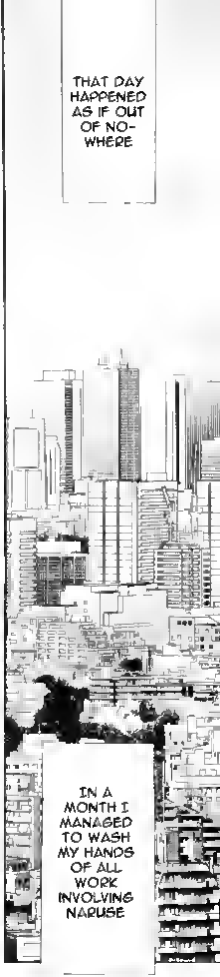
独裁者ゲラゲ

第3話

WHAT'S GOING ON?
HE AND OHARA HAVE BEEN TALKING ALL THIS TIME.
I DON'T REALLY KNOW BUT THE PRESIDENT JUST CAME IN
WHAT HAPPENED?

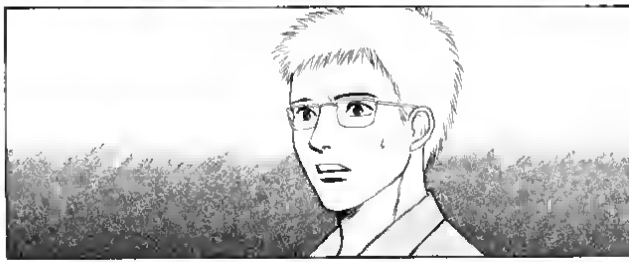
IN ANY CASE, LET'S GET BACK TO WORK

WELL THEY SAID THEY DIDN'T WANT TO SETTLE OUT OF COURT AND ALL OF A SUDDEN A LAWYER STOOD UP AND GOT INVOLVED
EEH THEN IT'S TURNED INTO A WITCH-HUNT?


THAT DAY HAPPENED AS IF OUT OF NOWHERE
IN A MONTH I MANAGED TO WASH MY HANDS OF ALL WORK INVOLVING NARUSE

NARUSE IS STILL TRYING TO ENTRAP ME
I WROTE EVERY-THING HE TOLD ME JUST AS IT WAS ON THE TAPES!
EEEH?
THIS INTER-VIEW IS PAS-SIONATE BUT THEY SAID IT'S NOT TERRIBLY ORIGINAL. MOREOVER THEY THINK THE INTENT IS TO DEFAME THE AUTHOR.
BUT PIPS THEM APART IN THE PROOF-READING STAGE
HE ANSWERS THEIR QUES-TIONS
HE REFUSES TO COOP-ERATE WITH ANY OTHER REPORTER THEY SEND NO MATTER HOW PRES-TIGIOUS
WE'RE A FASHION MAGAZINE COMPANY FIRST AND FORE-MOST ANYWAY!
THE MEDIA PORTION OF THE COMPANY IS EXPEND-ABLE
ARE THEY SERIOUS? COMPEN-SATION MONEY?!
THE PRESI-DENT SAYS THE COMPANY CAN'T COVER THIS SORT OF A FEE
THE LAWYER THEY BROUGHT IN IS THE ONE FROM TELEVI-SION... THE LAWYER TAKAOKA

I'M NOT VERY GOOD WITH PEOPLE SO I'VE ALWAYS SENT THE REST OF YOU OUT TO DO WORK I SHOULD HAVE DONE MYSELF
MEANWHILE MY OWN REPUTATION HAS GROWN THROUGH YOUR BLOOD, SWEAT AND TEARS



FOR SOME REASON I COULDN'T SAY ANYTHING

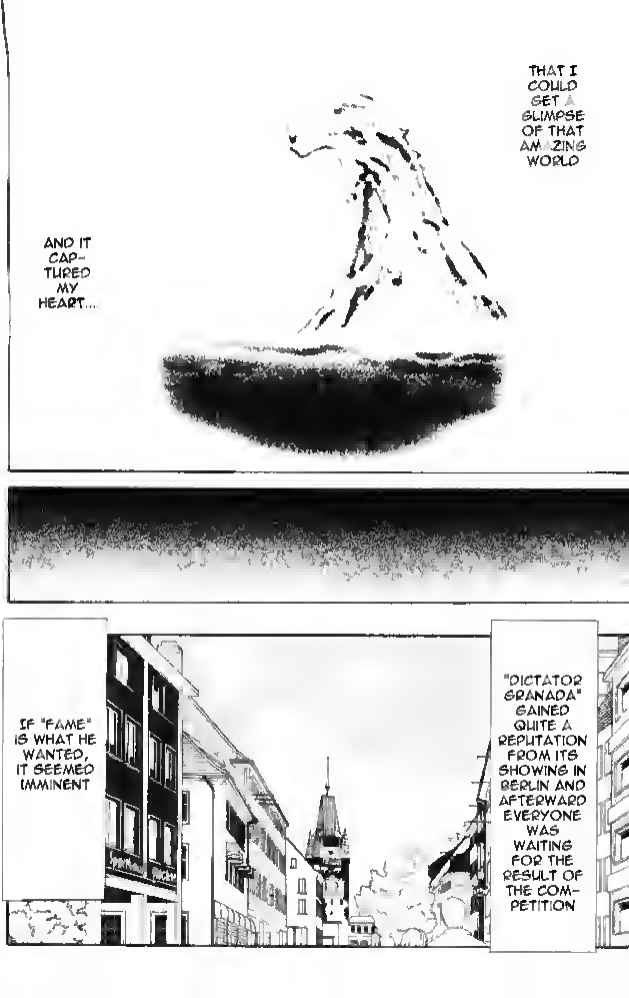
THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT BUT—

"THE REASON NARUSE'S ANGRY ENOUGH TO DO THIS IS ME"

NO, I THOUGHT

I JUST DECIDE FOR MYSELF WHAT I CAN AND CAN'T DO

I DON'T WANT TO BE THE TYPICAL JAPANESE PERSON, AFRAID OF WHAT I DON'T UNDERSTAND FOR THE SAKE OF FEAR ALONE~~~~

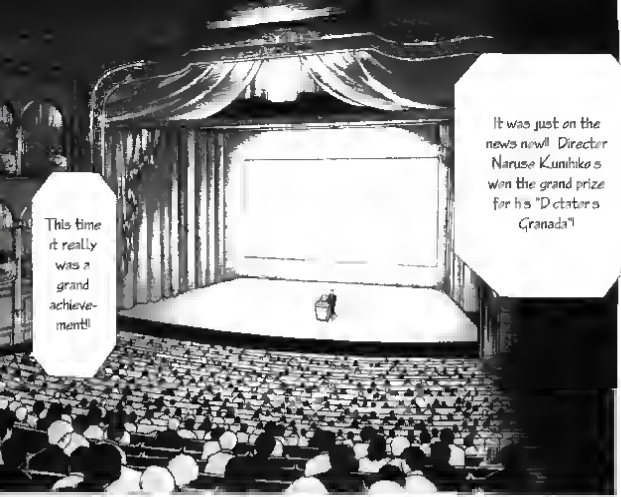

THAT I COULD GET A GLIMPSE OF THAT AMAZING WORLD
AND IT CAP-TURED MY HEART...
IF "FAME" IS WHAT HE WANTED, IT SEEMED IMMINENT
"DICTATOR GRANADA" GAINED QUITE A REPUTATION FROM ITS SHOWING IN BERLIN AND AFTERWARD EVERYONE WAS WAITING FOR THE RESULT OF THE COM-PETITION

EEH?
WHEN I FINISH THIS JOB I'VE PUT IN TO LEAVE TOKYO
I'M GOING BACK TO WORK WITH MY WIFE'S FAMILY. THEY OWN A PRINTING COMPANY
THERE'S NO NEED TO APOLOGIZE, OHARA-SAN
TONIGHT WE'LL ALL DRINK TOGETHER UNTIL WE DROP ALRIGHT?
SORRY THAT THINGS HAVE TURNED OUT THIS WAY
NOT MUCH GOING ON THERE BUT I'D LIKE TO MOVE OUT THERE SO SHE CAN BE CLOSER TO HER FAMILY
SOUMA IN FUKUSHIMA
AND WHERE IS YOUR WIFE'S FAMILY FROM?
UM
PRESIDENT
...ZUMI-KUN?
THE MAINTENANCE STAFF WILL CLEAR OUT THE REST OF THIS
THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR WORK UP TO TODAY

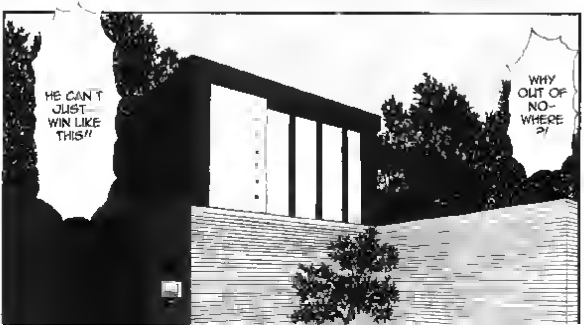
HERE
I'M QUITTING THE COMPANY TOO
Resignation
IF OHARA-SAN ISN'T HERE THEN I ALWAYS THOUGHT I WOULD QUIT AND NOW I AM
IT ISN'T ALL OF A SUDDEN
W-WHY THIS ALL OF A SUDDEN?
GOOD-BYE
I'VE ALWAYS HATED YOU, MR. PRESIDENT
WELL THEN VERY WELL.
I, I SEE

THAT WAS... AMAZING AZUMA!!
THAT WAS AWE-SOME
BUT
WHAT WILL YOU DO NOW THAT YOU'VE QUIT?
I WON-DER
I GUESS I JUST GO WHEREVER TOMOR-ROW'S WIND BLOWS ME!
...
BEG PARDON—
GIVE UP?
THEN— I GUESS THERE MUST BE SOME-THING I CAN DO—

EVERYONE'S TALKING ABOUT NARUSE KUNI-HIKO!! HE'S GETTING A HELL OF A REPUTA-TION!!
THE FILM FESTI-VAL'S STILL IN FULL SWING!!!
AH ICHIJOU-KUN YOU'RE AWAKE?
Yep in Berlin its night now~~~
Its been awhile Nakata-san!!
I WANT TO KNOW HOW HE MANAGED TO ATTRACT ENOUGH ATTENTION ALL OF A SUDDEN TO GET INVITED TO AN INTERNA-TIONAL FILM FESTIVAL AT ALL
BUT I HAVEN'T HEARD ANYTHING FIRST-HAND
OR SO I'VE BEEN HEARING
You didn't know Nakata-san?
I guess hearing about him from Geshima Eiji helped boost his reputation
? WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
UM YEAH I HEARD YOU WERE YOU THERE FOR AN INTERVIEW ICHIJOU-KUN

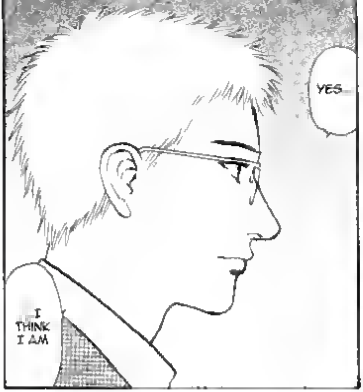

It was just on the news now! Director Naruse Kunihiko's won the grand prize for his "Dictator's Granada"!
This time it really was a grand achievement!!

ニュースエンタメ
Master Naruse is still in his only in his 20s
Now he's making plans to exhibit more of his work overseas

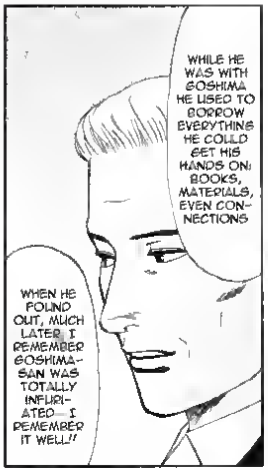

WHY OUT OF NOWHERE?!
HE CAN'T JUST WIN LIKE THIS!!

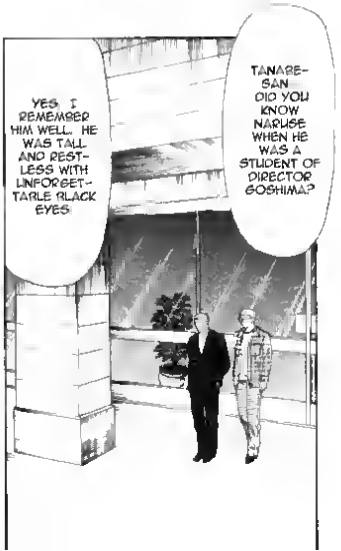
LET ME SEE
IT'S FROM THE DISTRIBUTION COMPANY "STREAM"
AP
JUST A MOMENT
YES?
EXCUSE ME?
REALLY?
GOSHIMA'S FAMILY DIED?
THEY'RE SAYING YOU EXPLOITED THE NAME OF GOSHIMA EIJI FOR THE CHANCE TO MAKE YOUR INTERNATIONAL DEBUT AT THE FILM FESTIVAL
THEY'RE ATTEMPTING TO BLOCK FURTHER DISTRIBUTION OF YOUR WORK
APPARENTLY THEY'RE CHALLENGING THE CONTENT OF THE WORK

WHO DOES GOSHIMA'S SON THINK HE IS?
WE'RE GOING TO SETTLE OUT OF COURT
IT'S HIS SON THIS TIME RATHER THAN FIGHTING
IS THE ONE UPSET HIS WIFE? OR HIS SON?
Did you use his name without permission?!
WHO IS IT?!
If as Director Narusse would have us believe, he's "Deeply grieved at the loss of Director Goshima - a man I respect above all" then how could he possibly sink to full-out exploitation to promote his own work in a time like this. I find it extremely unlikely
Using my father's name to make a bid at an international film festival, and what's more, to include his name in the print tagline is inexcuseable!
I absolutely can not over look this affair


YES.
I THINK I AM

ARE YOU SATISFIED?


WHILE HE WAS WITH GOSHIMA HE USED TO BORROW EVERYTHING HE COULD GET HIS HANDS ON; BOOKS, MATERIALS, EVEN CONNECTIONS
WHEN HE FOUND OUT, MUCH LATER, I REMEMBER GOSHIMA-SAN WAS TOTALLY INFURIATED... I REMEMBER IT WELL.!!


YES, I REMEMBER HIM WELL. HE WAS TALL AND RESTLESS WITH UNFORGETTABLE BLACK EYES
TANABE-SAN... DID YOU KNOW NAOUSE WHEN HE WAS A STUDENT OF DIRECTOR GOSHIMA?

<TN/> A POET, AUTHOR AND JOURNALIST WHO DIED FROM TUBERCULOSIS IN 1902. THE WORK NARUSE IS READING HERE IS A TRAVEL DIARY OF H.S

SHIKI

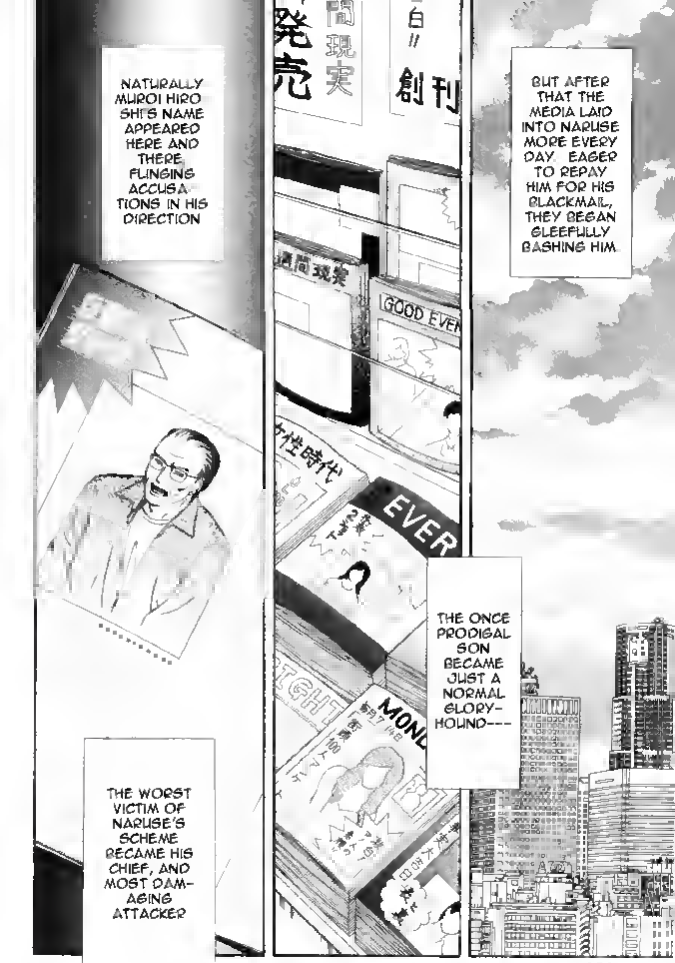
I ALWAYS THOUGHT IT AN ODD READING CHOICE FOR SUCH A YOUNG MAN

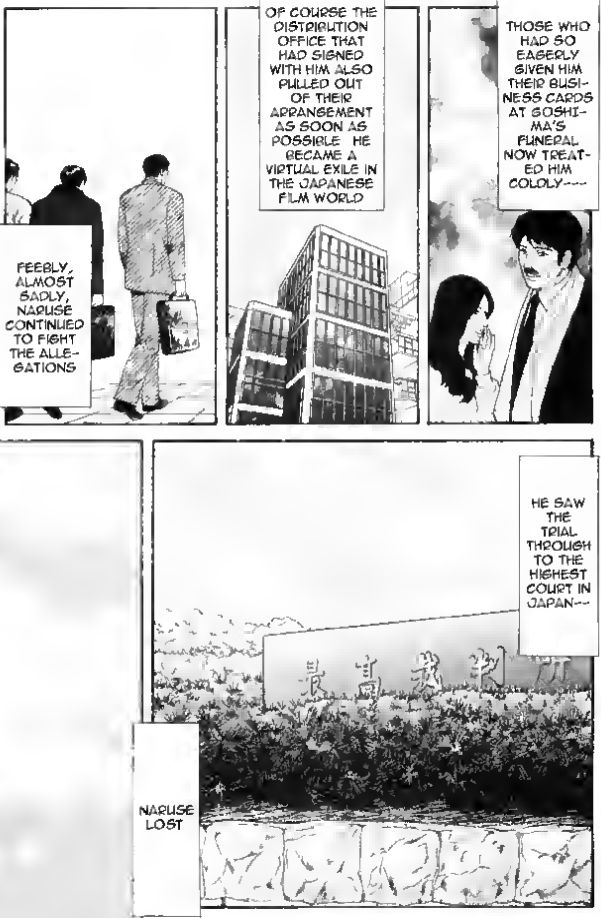
DURING HIS BREAKS HE WAS ALWAYS READING MASAOKA SHIKI'S "SIX STOPS ON THE ROAD TO DYING"

I THINK WE'VE TAUGHT THE SPOILED BRAT A LESSON ABOUT THE REAL WORLD—

WELL, IN ANY CASE

NARUSE WASN'T THE SORT OF MAN TO EVER ADMIT WRONG TO SUCH ACCUSATIONS AND I KNEW THAT WELL.


NATURALLY MUROI HIROSHI'S NAME APPEARED HERE AND THERE, FLINGING ACCUSATIONS IN HIS DIRECTION
BUT AFTER THAT THE MEDIA LAID INTO NARUSE MORE EVERY DAY. EAGER TO REPAY HIM FOR HIS BLACKMAIL, THEY BEGAN GLEEFULLY BASHING HIM.
THE ONCE PRODIGAL SON BECAME JUST A NORMAL GLORY-HOUND---
THE WORST VICTIM OF NARUSE'S SCHEME BECAME HIS CHIEF, AND MOST DAMAGING ATTACKER


FEEBLY, ALMOST SADLY, NARUSE CONTINUED TO FIGHT THE ALLEGATIONS
OF COURSE THE DISTRIBUTION OFFICE THAT HAD SIGNED WITH HIM ALSO PULLED OUT OF THEIR ARRANGEMENT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE HE BECAME A VIRTUAL EXILE IN THE JAPANESE FILM WORLD
THOSE WHO HAD SO EAGERLY GIVEN HIM THEIR BUSINESS CARDS AT GOSHIMA'S FUNERAL NOW TREATED HIM COLDLY---
NARUSE LOST
HE SAW THE TRIAL THROUGH TO THE HIGHEST COURT IN JAPAN---

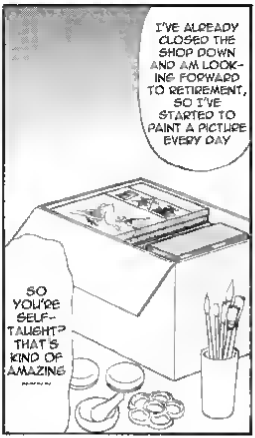
AND THEN MANY WINTERS CAME AND WENT

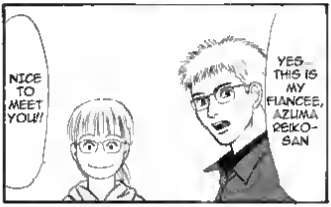
IT'S OF PILGRIMS CLIMBING MT. CHOUKAI
THIS IS THE LANDSCAPE THAT WON THE PREFECTURAL GOVERNOR'S PRIZE

WELL WE NEEDED THE MONEY... AND THE BUYER WAS... UM... THE JAPANESE ART SOCIETY I THINK...
BUT I-I NEVER THOUGHT YOU HAD ANYTHING WORTH SELLING BUT THE CLOTHES ON YOUR BACK, DAD

COOL!
THAT'S SO COOL!!

OVER THE PHONE?
BY THE WAY, IS THIS WHO YOU TOLD ME ABOUT


I'VE ALREADY CLOSED THE SHOP DOWN AND AM LOOKING FORWARD TO RETIREMENT, SO I'VE STARTED TO PAINT A PICTURE EVERY DAY
SO YOU'RE SELF-TAUGHT? THAT'S KIND OF AMAZING


NICE TO MEET YOU!!
YES— THIS IS MY FIANCEE, AZUMA REIKO-SAN

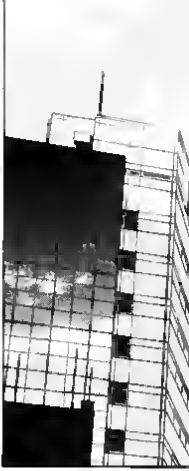
YOU CAN SAY THAT AGAIN
IT'S ALMOST A WASTE FOR A SMART GIRL LIKE YOU TO MARRY A DUMMY LIKE THIS!
HEY

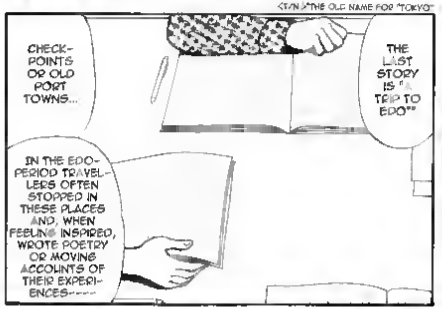
中畑はきもの店

WHEN YOU GUYS LEFT HOME I THOUGHT OF IT AS MY OWN RETIREMENT
I COULDN'T BEAR TO EVEN CONSIDER REMARRIAGE OR CONTINUE ON WITH THE BUSINESS
AFTER YOUR MOTHER SUDDENLY DIED FROM HEART FAILURE
I THINK PERHAPS I CAN GIVE THE PICTURES THE VIGOUR I'VE LOST
BUT NOW EVERY DAY I CAN'T HELP BUT LOOK FORWARD TO THE POINT WHEN I LIFT UP THE BRUSH!
I, ALWAYS THOUGHT THAT HAVING TO INHERIT THE HOUSE AND THE BUSINESS WERE NOTHING BUT TROUBLE
BUT SOMEWHERE ALONG THE LINE ALL THOSE WORRIES FLED FROM ME

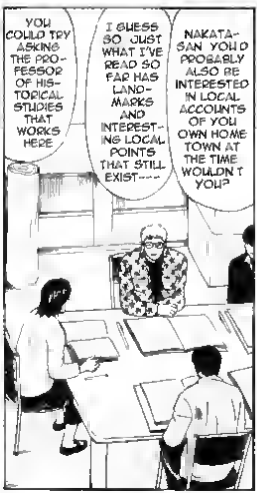
I GUESS I TURNED A BLIND EYE TO YOUR LONELINESS DAD...
IT'S AN EARLY START TOMORROW SO GET SOME REST
I'M GOING TO PAINT A BIT LONGER BEFORE TURNING IN MYSELF.
YOUR FATHER IS SO ACTIVE AND INTERESTED IN ALL SORT OF THINGS IT'S GREAT!!
HE WASN'T ALWAYS THAT WAY
THE KEY TO HAPPINESS IS FINDING YOUR OWN PERSONAL REASON FOR LIVING!!
WELL ANYWAY... IF WE'RE GOING BACK TO TOKYO IN THE MORNING WE'VE GOT TO START PACKING---
WHY DON'T WE STAY HERE IN THE COUNTRY? IT'S NICE HERE, ISN'T IT?!
WITH NO JOBS FOR EITHER OF US!

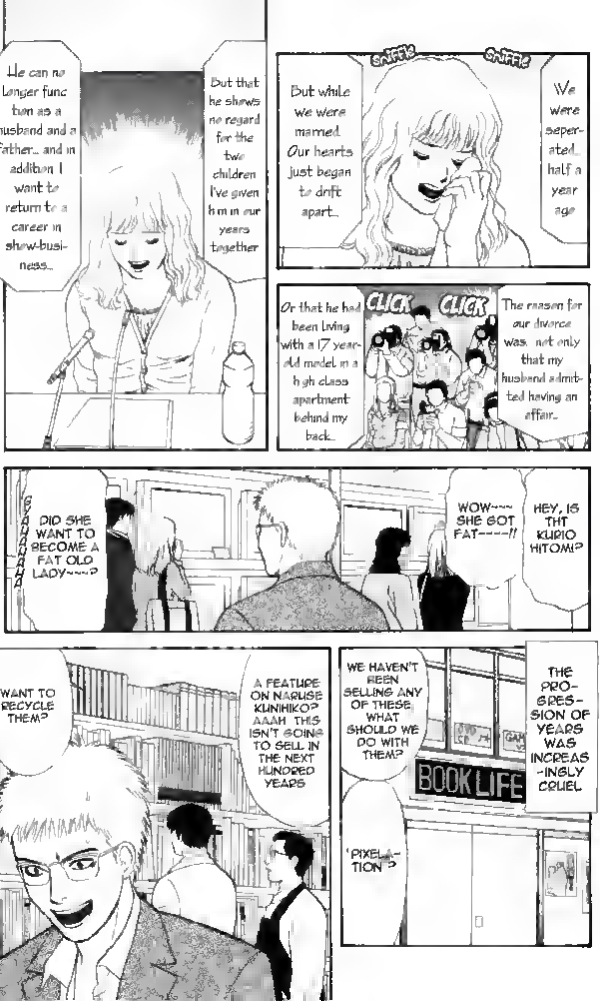
Historical Travel
Literature Archival
Room




CHECK-POINTS OR OLD PORT TOWNS...
THE LAST STORY IS "A TRIP TO EDO"
IN THE EDO-PERIOD TRAVELLERS OFTEN STOPPED IN THESE PLACES AND, WHEN FEELING INSPIRED, WROTE POETRY OR MOVING ACCOUNTS OF THEIR EXPERIENCES.....

I KIND OF SURPRISED MYSELF IN COMING HERE...
BUT IT'S KIND OF FUN...

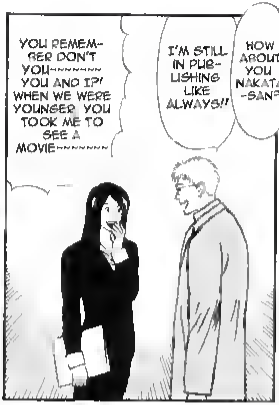

YOU COULD TRY ASKING THE PROFESSOR OF HISTORICAL STUDIES THAT WORKS HERE
I GUESS SO. JUST WHAT I'VE READ SO FAR HAS LANDMARKS AND INTERESTING LOCAL POINTS THAT STILL EXIST.....
NAKATA-SAN YOU'D PROBABLY ALSO BE INTERESTED IN LOCAL ACCOUNTS OF YOUR OWN HOME TOWN AT THE TIME WOULDN'T YOU?


He can no longer function as a husband and a father... and in addition I want to return to a career in show-business...
But that he shows no regard for the two children I've given him in our years together
SNIFF
SNIFF
But while we were married our hearts just began to drift apart...
We were seperated... half a year ago
Or that he had been living with a 17 year-old model in a high class apartment behind my back...
CLICK
CLICK
The reason for our divorce was not only that my husband admitted having an affair...
DID SHE WANT TO BECOME A FAT OLD LADY~~~?
WOW~~~ SHE GOT FAT~~~~!!
HEY, IS THT KURIO HITOMI?
WANT TO RECYCLE THEM?
A FEATURE ON NAGISE KUNIHIKO? AAAH THIS ISN'T GOING TO SELL IN THE NEXT HUNDRED YEARS
WE HAVEN'T BEEN SELLING ANY OF THESE, WHAT SHOULD WE DO WITH THEM?
THE PRO-GRES-SION OF YEARS WAS INCREAS-INGLY CRUEL
BOOK LIFE
'PIXEL-TION'

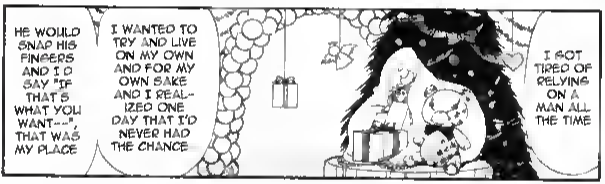
THOUGH ONCE UPON A TIME, EVEN NATSUSE KUNIHIKO SOLD, HUH?
AND FROM ALL OF THE BOOKS—
FROM TV, VIDEO, DVD...
HE HAD COMPLETELY DISSAPPEARED
I'M JUST GOING TO BUY SOME THINGS AT THE USED-BOOK-STORE AND HEAD HOME
LATER
I'M IN YURAKUCHO NOW
THIS IS NAKATA
SONY

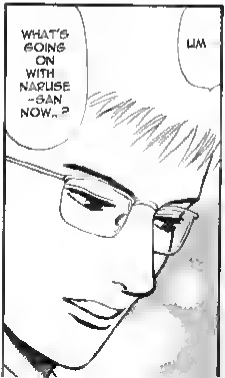
Happy
Xmas
AI-SAN!?
WOW~ IT'S BEEN AGES, WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN HIDING?!
slap
I FEEL THE SAME WAY YOU'RE DIFFERENT YOURSELF
NOW I'VE GOT A JOB DESIGNING WINDOW DISPLAYS!
TODAY I'VE BEEN REALLY INTO IT!!

AAH SORRY
JUST FIX IT!!
NOT THERE!! THAT'S NOT THE ORNAMENT I WANT THERE!!


HOW ABOUT YOU NAKATA-SAN?
I'M STILL IN PUBLISHING LIKE ALWAYS!!
YOU REMEMBER DON'T YOU~~~~~~~~ YOU AND I?! WHEN WE WERE YOUNGER YOU TOOK ME TO SEE A MOVIE~~~~~~~

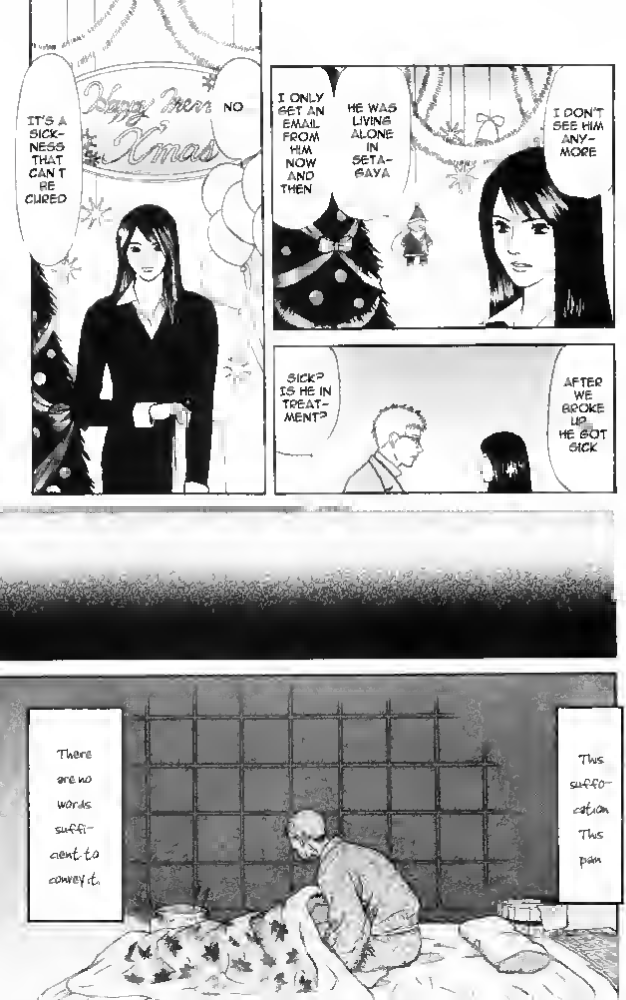
WHAT WERE WE TALKING ABOUT?
AH, SORRY ABOUT THAT!


I GOT TIRED OF RELYING ON A MAN ALL THE TIME
I WANTED TO TRY AND LIVE ON MY OWN AND FOR MY OWN SAKE AND I REALIZED ONE DAY THAT I'D NEVER HAD THE CHANCE
HE WOULD SNAP HIS FINGERS AND I'D SAY "IF THAT'S WHAT YOU WANT--" THAT WAS MY PLACE


WHAT'S GOING ON WITH NARUSE-SAN NOW..?
UM

"SOMEDAY AI'S GOING TO LEAVE ME"

I WAS LOOKING FORWARD TO PARTING FROM MY KEEPER


Happy New Xmas
NO
IT'S A SICKNESS THAT CAN'T BE CURED
I ONLY GET AN EMAIL FROM HIM NOW AND THEN
HE WAS LIVING ALONE IN SETAGAYA
I DON'T SEE HIM ANYMORE
SICK? IS HE IN TREATMENT?
AFTER WE BROKE UP, HE GOT SICK
There are no words sufficient to convey it.
This suffocation This pain

FROM "ON STICKS ON THE ROAD TO DUNE" BY SACHIKA SHIBU

If only I can die and end it all, I would no longer want for anything else.

So much so that I think if I were to become a true lunatic I would find more peace of mind.

Every day this crushing pain lingers on into the fitful and dreamless nights which grow into ever more oppressive days. And in waking the next morning, there is only more pain in store.

But if I can not die alone there is none who would outright kill me.

There is no time more painful, than the morning when I wake.

Isn't there anyone who can deliver me from this suffering?
Isn't there anyone who can deliver me from this suffering?

WHY DID I STOP BELIEVING IN THE WARMTH I FIRST FELT IN HIS HAND?

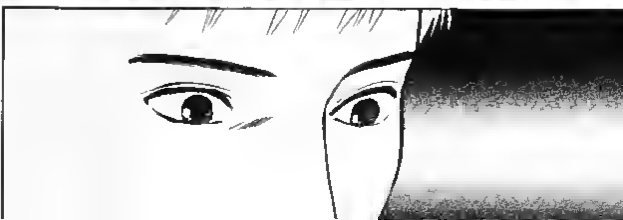
WHY DIDN'T I NOTICE

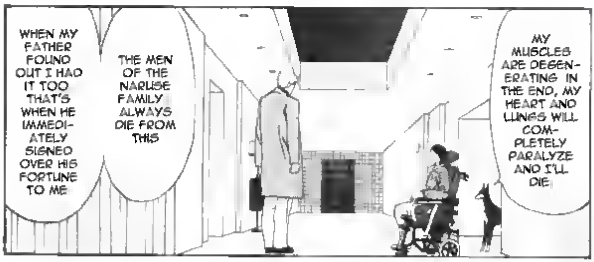
WHY DIDN'T I WANT TO KNOW EVERY-THING ABOUT THIS SOONER?

MAYBE WHATEVER IT IS THAT AFFLICTED HIS FATHER HAS BEEN PASSED DOWN AND IS AFFLICT-ING HIM NOW----

IT'S TRUE THAT HE HURT ME, BUT WAS THAT THE END OF EVERYTHING BETWEEN US--------?
Come in. It's unlocked
IT TURNED OUT JUST LIKE I SAID AFTER ALL, DIDN'T IT?
HEY

YOU CAME CRAWL-ING BACK TO ME.




WHEN MY FATHER FOUND OUT I HAD IT TOO THAT'S WHEN HE IMMEDIATELY SIGNED OVER HIS FORTUNE TO ME
THE MEN OF THE NARUSE FAMILY ALWAYS DIE FROM THIS
MY MUSCLES ARE DEGENERATING IN THE END, MY HEART AND LUNGS WILL COMPLETELY PARALYZE AND I'LL DIE.

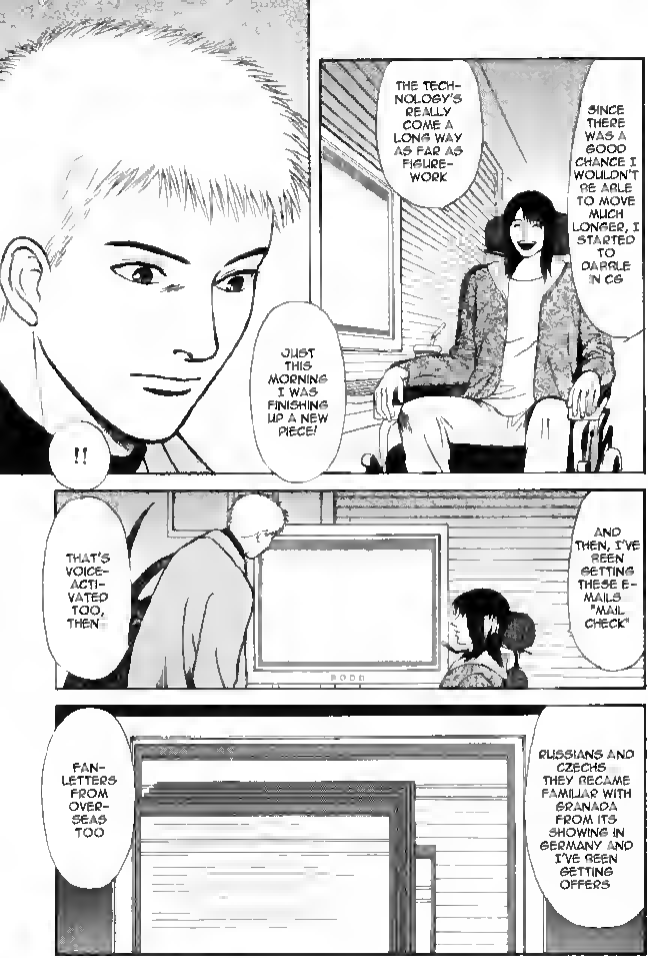
NO ONE CAN LIVE THEIR LIVES WITHOUT HARDSHIP, CAN THEY?
WELL... EITHER WAY
SO THAT'S WHAT HAPPENED?
WHEN WE FIRST MET I WAS STILL IN PRETTY GOOD SHAPE

GREY
WOOSH!
"CURTAIN, OPEN"

I CAN OPERATE EVERY-THING WITH THIS MICRO-PHONE
AND DURING THE WEEK I HAVE VARIOUS PEOPLE COME TO HELP ME OUT
THIS DOBER-MAN'S BECOME MY ARMS AND LEGS

AFTER MY FATHER GOT SICK, HE AND MOTHER AGREED TO DIVORCE AND IT BECAME MY DUTY TO WATCH OVER HIM AT THE HOSPITAL WHILE HE DEGENER-ATED
SO I DECIDED THAT IF I WAS GOING TO END UP SICK LIKE HIM I WAS GOING TO ACCOM-PLISH ALL I COULD AS AN ARTIST IN THE TIME THAT I WAS GIVEN

TO LEAVE SOME PROOF OF MY OWN LIFE BEHIND-


THE TECHNOLOGY'S REALLY COME A LONG WAY AS FAR AS FIGURE-WORK
SINCE THERE WAS A GOOD CHANCE I WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO MOVE MUCH LONGER, I STARTED TO DABBLE IN CG
JUST THIS MORNING I WAS FINISHING UP A NEW PIECE!
!!
AND THEN, I'VE BEEN GETTING THESE E-MAILS "MAIL CHECK"
THAT'S VOICE-ACTIVATED TOO, THEN
RUSSIANS AND CZECHS THEY BECAME FAMILIAR WITH GRANADA FROM ITS SHOWING IN GERMANY AND I'VE BEEN GETTING OFFERS
FAN-LETTERS FROM OVER-SEAS TOO

I WANT TO TRY TO CONTINUTE WORKING AND FALL INTO MY PIECES

HUMANS HAVE AMAZING POWERS TO SURVIVE, EVEN WHEN THEY'RE LEFT TO WALK THEIR OWN PATH ALONE

I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO APOLOGIZE TO YOU NARUSE

AND I'VE ALWAYS KNOWN YOU WERE BEHIND THE INVESTIGATION, AT LEAST IN PART. DOESN'T MATTER

THE ONLY MAN WHO EVER GAVE MY WORK A SINCERE RAVE REVIEW IS HERE WITH ME.
THEN THAT'S ALL THAT MATTERS, ISN'T IT?
THAT'S MORE THAN ENOUGH
MY FATHER RAISED IT IT'S ONLY 300 000 YEN BUT... OF COURSE I WANT YOU TO ACCEPT IT...
AND BY THE WAY I WANT TO PAY YOU BACK
IS YOUR OLD MAN DOING WELL?
...YES
THAT'S NOT THE POINT...
OH THAT'S BULL-SHIT!! I GAVE THAT TO YOU DIDN'T I?
THE HUMAN HEART HAS THE ABILITY TO MAKE PUPPETS OF OTHERS WITHOUT EVEN MEANING TO
"DICTATOR'S GRANADA" WASN'T AN ALLEGORY AT ALL IT WAS REALLY JUST A STORY...
BUT THE WAY THINGS TURNED OUT IT'S KIND OF EATING AWAY AT ME
I'M SAYING THAT I RESPECT YOUR VISION
THAT IS...

"SIX STOPS IS FAR TOO FEW"
IT KILLS ME THAT SOMETHING LIKE NOT BEING ABLE TO MOVE IS GOING TO FETTER THE UNIVERSE I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO SEE MORE OF.

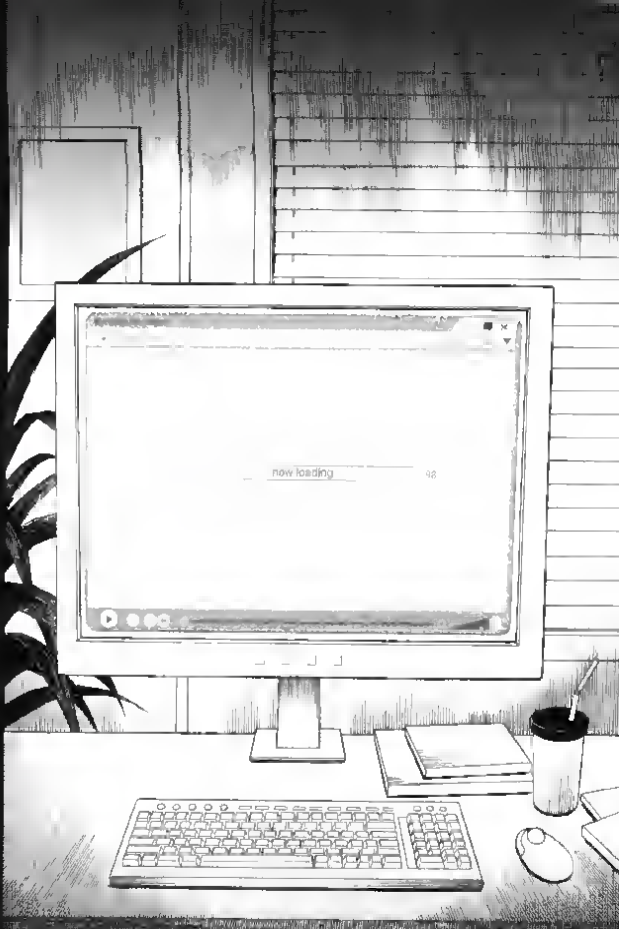
BUT THE WORLD NEVER CHANGES THE SAME OLD COMMERCIAL SHIT WILL ALMOST ALWAYS WIN OUT OVER THE SINCERE AND VISIONARY...
BUT RAISING OUR OWN SOULS UP
IS THE MOST IMPORTANT THING FOR HUMANS

I PRAISED YOUR WORK NAOUSE-SAN, BUT
IT SEEMS THAT YOU'VE ATTAINED HUMANITY
AND THAT WAS THE REAL ACHIEVEMENT...

"DOWN-LOAD"
I'VE GOT IT ON THE MAC IN THE STUDIO
THEN LET ME GIVE YOU A SPECIAL PRIVATE PREMIERE BEFORE THE WORLD OF MY NEW WORK.
YOU'VE FINALLY GOTTEN THE FOOL-ISH THING THEN!
YOU'RE GOING TO PRAISE ME
OF COURSE, AFTER YOU SEE IT
AND THEN

AND TURNED ITS FACE TO A NEW AND SPLENDID WORLD—

THE DIC-TATOR WAS BORN AGAIN



Chapter 3 END

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CHARA COMICS

映像情報誌の編集者・中田は、巷で話題のクレイアニメーション『独裁者グラナダ』に感動する。だが、その作者で新進映像作家の鳴瀬邦彦は、人を人とも思わないような、傲慢な男だった!! 取材を任され、不承不承行動を共にする中田。次第に、鳴瀬の身勝手な言動の裏にある信念に惹かれてゆくが……。

独裁者グラナダ

AMI SUGIMOTO PRESENTS

杉本亜未

CHARA COMICS